

KPM/513/02571/05

2521

West Bengal Form No. 11

200

Collection No .....

File No. .... M-509/40

Serial No. .... 1/40

SUBJECT

CALCUTTA CORPORATION (MAIN)

Government of West Bengal

OFFICE OF .....

DEPARTMENT OR GROUP

BRANCH

LIST OF PAPERS

Serial No. in file	From or to whom	Number	Date	Number of Pages	Class of Paper
40					



CONFIDENTIAL.

File No

Year

**SUBJECT**

GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Police,

SPECIAL BRANCH.

**Index and Carded (with dates).**

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PANCH.

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SUBJECT,

*Calcutta Corporation Main*

NOTES AND ORDERS,



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4 (2) 7620 21/29/5/40 50.

AGI

(1) Perusal pp 1-3.

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~~Mukherjee — A~~

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Ham ch — M.L.A. (About 50-700).  
 Mayor - Cal. Corp.

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 — Belliaghata, Cal + of  
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"R"

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Bengal Form No. 8.  
AOJP-A 31573-1940-41-25,000Sarkar - Naliniranjana, Chairman,  
Reception Committee, Calcutta Kalyan  
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(P.T.O)



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NOTES AND ORDERS,



S.M.R. dated 14.5.40.

Anushilan.

Bakarganj-Calcutta.

Election refers to the  
Corporation election

Copy to I.B. with a  
request to fix the  
Ballyganj address of  
Jagat Gupta (E.D.), if  
not known. INDEXED.

Sd/- S.N. Chaudhuri.  
Insp.  
14/5

Interesting  
Sd/- A.E.F.W. Sd/- RRC  
14/5 22/5

\* Ch. Bose

Postal Seal.

Ballyganj.  
13 May 40  
11 A.M.  
Calcutta.

\*\* Ex-detenu Anushilan

She is evidently  
Dr. Provabati Das Gupta?

Sd/- RRC  
22/5

English rendering of a Bengali letter.

To

Your lotus feet,

My aunt withdrew her candidature on the  
day of the election. The people of Subhash Bose  
were taking all sorts of unfair means openly.  
Complaints to the returning officer were of no  
avail and so we left the place in disgust. The  
unfair means in the matter of election, spoken of  
by Subhash Babu, before the public, are all his  
imports. We are eye witness to this. It is im-  
fortunate  
next for us that we speak so highly of such  
a self seeking gentleman.

Biren Babu is staying in our quarters.

\* Sd/- Jagat Prasanna  
Gupta. INDEXED

Superscription

Sd. Debendra Nath Ghosh,  
C/O Nibaran Ch. Ghosh,  
Nazirbari, Kaunia, Barisal.

\* Ex-detenu.

Note: The writer Jagat Prasanna Gupta is an  
ex-detenu and was not heard of long. Biren Babu  
is in all probability Birendra Nath Bose (E.D.  
AnU.C.S.P.) who is reported to have gone to  
Calcutta for training in Geography as he was a  
teacher in the local Banipith H.E.School.

Aunt of Jagat Gupta (writer) is not known.

Sd/- S.N. Chaudhuri,  
14/5



**SECRET.**

DISTRICT INTELLIGENCE BRANCH, Barisal  
~~INTELLIGENCE BRANCH~~ C. I. D.,

~~13, Lark Street, Road, Calcutta~~

The 16th May 19 40

**Memo. No. 2842**

*(The secrecy of this interception may kindly be maintained.)*

1. From (with address) Jagat Prasanna Gupta, Ballyganje, Calcutta
2. To (with address) Debendra Nath Ghosh, c/o Nibaran Ch. Ghosh,  
Nazirbari, Kaunia, Barisal.
3. Language of letter Bengali
4. Date of letter Nil
5. Postal Seal Ballyganje 13 May 40, 11 A.M. Calcutta
6. Post office of interception Barisal
7. Date of interception 14.5.40
8. Name of officer who can prove the interception Babu S.N. Chaudhury  
" Inspector, D.I.B. Barisal
9. Whether photographed or not Not photographed
10. Whether withheld or delivered Delivered
11. If delivered, whether copy kept or not Copy kept
12. Number and date of Government order authorising interception \_\_\_\_\_

~~/Copy~~ translation forwarded to H.E. Sabine, Esq., I.P., Special  
Superintendent, I.B. for information (in triplicate).

The Ballygunge address of the writer, if not known, may  
kindly be fixed.

Sd/- J. Bell  
Major M.I.O.

for Superintendent of Police, Bakarganj

16/5



## GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

OFFICE OF the Deputy Insp.-Genl. of Police.

.....C.I. .... DEPARTMENT.  
 Intelligence GROUP.  
 BRANCH.

No. ....

FROM

315/28 (1) Int

23/55

29/5/40

To

A.E.F. Wood, Esq., I.P.  
 Supdt. of Police,  
 Bakarganj.

SECRET

Dated 28 May 1940.

Subject :—

Dear Mr. Wood,

Reference your Memo No. 2842 dated 16.5.40  
 forwarding copy of an intercepted letter to <sup>INDEXED.</sup> Debendra  
 Nath Ghosh, the writer, Jagat Prasanna Gupta's <sup>INDEXED.</sup>  
 Ballygunj address is 5 Dehi Serampore Lane. The  
 aunt of Jagat Prasanna Gupta may be identical with Dr.  
 Prabhavati Das Gupta P.H.D. of 7 Anthony Bagan Lane,  
 Calcutta.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- R.R. Chatterji  
 for Special Superintendent., I.B.

RRC/N 27/5

Memo No. .... dated 28/5.40

Copy together with a copy of the Supdt. of Police,  
 Bakarganj's memo No: quoted above forwarded to J.V.B. Janvrin,  
 Esq. I.P. Dy Commr. of Police, S.B. Calcutta, for information.

for Special Superintendent., I.B.



## GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

All communica-  
tions should give the  
Number, Date and  
Subjects of any  
previous Correspondence.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE,

C.I.

DEPARTMENT.

INTELLIGENCE

BRANCH.

Memorandum No. 7620(2), dated May, the 27 19 40.  
315-28(1)Int.

To

23203

29/5/40

SECRET

SUBJECT

REFERENCE

Extract from J.P. 212 dated 23.5.40.

Para IX "The Aunt" of ex-det. Jagat Gupta of Barisal may be identical with Dr. Prabhabati Das Gupta Ph., D. of 1, Anthonybagan Lane, Calcutta and Biren may be identical with Biren Ray s/o Anadi Ray of Kaunia, Barisal town with whom Jagat is at present very thick and thin.

C.S. to send extract to office for action from office file at once please.

Forwarded to :-

1. J.V.B. Janvrin Esq., I.P.,  
Deputy Commr., S.B., Calcutta,  
for information in continuation of  
this office No. 7547(1)/315-28(1)Int.  
d/-28.5.40. 1

2. A.E.F. Wood Esq., I.P.,  
Supdt., of Police, Bakarganj,  
for information in continuation  
of this office No. 7547/315-28(1)Int.  
dated 28.5.40

*RRLhattarj*  
27/5/40  
for SPECIAL SUPERINTENDENT, I.B.



A. B. Patrika. 8. 13. 6. 40.

M509/100

5

## ANOTHER FEATHER TO BOSE LEAGUE CLIQUE

The first big drive of Alderman Subhas Chandra Bose to run the administration of the Calcutta Corporation on an absolutely non-party basis, it is understood, lay in initiating the move to boycott the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" and strike off its name from the list of the daily newspapers for the publication of Corporation advertisements.

The E.G.P. Committee dominated by the League-Bose Party met on Friday last (June 7) and considered the question of boycotting the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" and transferring their favour to the "Star of India," of late famous for launching scurrilous attacks on Lord Krishna, and Alderman Bose's favoured "Hindusthan Standard."

It is understood that at the meeting one of the satellites of Alderman Bose Mr. Debabrata Mukherjee, moved that the following six newspapers be selected as contract papers for regularly publishing Corporation advertisements: (1) Hindusthan Standard, (2) Star of India, (3) Ananda Bazar Patrika, (4) Lokmanya, (5) Azad and (6) Asrejadid.

The Bose group also moved that the "Statesman" be selected as a paper in which casual advertisements of the Corporation should be published.

This move, it is understood, evoked a spirited protest from the European members on the Committee and Mr. J. H. Speller proposed that the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" should not be boycotted and should be in the list proposed by the Bose group. This suggestion of Mr. Speller was a cry in the wilderness and failed to achieve its object against the League-Bose pact and the Councillors belonging to it had not the sense of fairness to appreciate what they were doing. It is reported that they carried the resolution against the determined opposition of the European group the only group in the committee outside the League-Bose packed body, the Mahasabha. Councillors having refused to serve on the committees, Mr. Speller and Mr. Cohen had their dissent recorded.

The following resolution was passed at the meeting:—

"That the following daily newspapers do constitute the panel of approved papers in which Corporation advertisements may be published regularly at the rate noted against each for one year from the 7th June, 1940: (1) Hindusthan Standard, (2) Star of India, (3) Ananda Bazar Patrika, (4) Lokmanya, (5) Azad and (6) Asrejadid.

(ii) That the "Statesman" be selected for casual advertisements for the same period and

(iii) that the following papers be selected for advertisements on technical matters:

"Calcutta Exchange Gazette" and "Indian and Eastern Engineering" for Engineering matters, "Indian Medical Gazette" for health matters and "Capital" for financial matters.

The E.G.P. Committee of the Calcutta Corporation is constituted with the following Councillors:

Mr. Eulin Behari Mullick, Chairman. Mr. Pradyumnu Kumar Sett, Mr. Jagannath Kolay, Mr. J. C. Cohen, Mr. Bijoy Kumar Banerjee, Mr. Debabrata Mukherjee, Mr. Jogesh Chandra Ghose, Moulavi Nuruddin Ahmed, Dr. Sadeque Hossain, Mr. Ziauddin Ahmed, Mr. J. H. Speller and Haji Mumtazuddin.



Submitted on  
14/6.

11507/100  
6  
H. Standard. 8/13.6.40.

CALCUTTA CORPORATION

## HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS

REPRESENTATIVES  
ELECTED

Bengal Govt. Letter  
To C. E. O.

Most of the time of the Calcutta Corporation at its meeting on Wednesday was occupied with the election of Corporation representatives on the governing bodies of various hospitals and other institutions for the year 1940-41.

The Corporation elected Mr. Jogesh Chandra Ghosh (Congress) and Khan Sahib Mahomed Sulaiman (Muslim League) its representatives on the Local Advisory Boards of the Eastern Bengal Railway and East India Railway respectively. Mr. Mohsin Khan (Muslim League) and Mr. Sudhir Chatterjee (Congress) were elected Corporation representatives on the Advisory Committee of the Calcutta Tramways Company Ltd.

Mr. Hamoodur Rahman (Muslim League) was elected Corporation representative on the Consultative Committee of the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation and Mr. Jogen-dra Nath Mandal (Congress) on the Smoke Nuisance Commission.

Mr. Phanindra Nath Brahma (Deputy Mayor) was elected a representative of the Corporation on the Regional Transport Authority for the region of Calcutta.

### GOVT. LETTER

The Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation had received a letter from the Home Department, Government of Bengal in which it was pointed out that according to rules of the Bengal Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, representative of the Corporation, nominated by the Provincial Government, should be included in the Regional Transport Authority for the region of Calcutta. It was added in the letter that this procedure was being adopted in this particular instance because of the rules as they stood, but that in future occasions when the rules have been amended after discussion in the Assembly in July next, the Corporation will elect their representative and the formality of nomination will not have to be gone through.

By 38 against 21 votes (3 not voting) the Corporation refused to grant leave to Mr. N. C. Chatterji (Hindu Mahasabha) to move the following resolution out of turn:—

That the decision of the Estates and General Purposes Committee as to their resolution dated the 7th June, 1940, with regard to the panel of approved newspapers in which advertisements of the Corporation will be published for one year be revised and that advertisement be of India the Corporation to the 'Star' newspaper having regard to the offensive language used by that newspaper in connection with 'Bhagawan' Sree Krishna which has deeply wounded the feelings of the Hindu rate-payers and citizens of the city of Calcutta.

(2) That the Corporation direct the said Committee to revise the panel of approved newspapers and in settling such panel the circulation of a newspaper should be the sole criterion and that no newspaper should be patronised or excluded on grounds of party politics.

At a meeting of the councillors of the Calcutta Corporation elected by constituencies other than the Special constituencies on Wednesday, Mr. Shamad Rafique was elected a member.



Date

Hour of receipt by Dy. Commr.

One Daily to the Dy. Commissioner of Police, D. D.  
S. B.D. D.  
S. B.

## CALCUTTA POLICE.

From Inspector

of D. D. Calcutta, dated

1940

Date and  
hour.

Diary.

Dy. Commissioner's Remarks  
and Orders.

Re - Lal Mohan Mitra  
vide file 251/40 of 803

M  
M  
4/7

AGI

Personal with  
ref. to your  
order below.

No trace of Lal Mohan  
Mitra could be obtained  
at Peshbagan. The  
meeting was held in  
an open place of land.

3/7 Reply now

100  
8/7

Babu Hem Chandra  
Naskar who presided  
over the function  
could not give any  
clue for tracing Lal

AGI

A copy of this  
report is  
placed in  
the IB file.

The filing  
please be  
advised.

6/7 100

8/7

Mohan. Subinil Kumar  
Chandany of 102/  
Bellipara main road  
said that Lal Mohan

IB file  
returned  
on 6/7/40.

100  
8/7

lives somewhere at  
Charandanga. 30/6/40. 251/40 of 803



Mr. N.C. Chatterji, dwelling on the Corporation amendment Bill, bitterly attacked the attempts of non-Bengali Moslems to control the finances of the Corporation. He called them traitors, infidels and demons and asked the Hindus to start a grim fight.

Dr. S.P. Mukherji said that the faked Communal Award was given by the British Government only to suppress the Hindus, who were the bitterest enemies of British Imperialism. He asked the Hindus of Bengal to create a movement legal or illegal to do away with this Communal Award. Referring to the bills he said, that these were nothing but war against the Hindus by the Bengal Ministry, which was a plaything in the hands of the British Government. He urged all to observe the All Bengal Protest Day on 1.8.'40 by holding meetings and demonstrations, even in defiance

BM

of orders under the Defence of India Rules.

A resolution on the above subjects was passed in the meeting.



MR.33751  
30.7.40

230. Hindu Sava.

On 25.7.'40 a public meeting (1000) was held at the Town Hall under the auspices of the Bengal Provincial Hindu Sava with Dr. Shyama Prosad Mukharji

BM

in the chair. The President and the speakers\* condemned

\*Dr. S.P. Mukharji,  
Ramananda Chatterji,  
Naren Das,  
Dr. Ramatha Banarji,  
Naren Sett,  
Mr. N.C. Chatterji,  
Padamraj Jain.

the present policy pursued by the Bengal Ministry, which has not only hampered the interests of the Hindus but has retarded the progress of the province.

They bitterly criticised and made protests against the following proposed legislations, as being communal and highly injurious to the national, educational and economical advancement of the country :-

1. The Second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill.
2. The Secondary Education Bill.
3. The Bengal Agricultural Debtor's Amendment Bill.

They also bitterly condemned the decisions of the Bengal Ministry to bring in Moslems of other provinces in preference to qualified Hindu candidates to fill vacancies in Bengal.



509/100

MISCELLANEOUS: 31.7.'40.

M.R.33650 235. Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill.  
29.7.40

At a meeting\* (50) of the rate-payers of Ward

No. I held at Shyambazar Town School on 28.7.'40 under

\* Present Ca.  
Kiron Ch. Dutt,  
Rajendra N. Banerjee, Ca.  
Khitish Ch. Chakravarty,  
Dr. Bhupendranath Bose, Ca.  
Narendra Nath Chakravarty, Ca.  
Debendra Nath Mukherjee. Ca.  
Sorooshilal Sarker. Ca.

the presidentship of Kiron Chandra  
Dutt, a resolution was <sup>passed</sup> condemning  
the 2nd Calcutta Municipal  
Amendment Bill, and urging the

rate-payers to be ready for a no-tax campaign.



M-509/612

12

W.R.d. 3.8.40

2347.

(2) On the 28th July, ratepayers (50) of Ward I held a meeting at Shambazar Town School under the presidentship of **Kiron Chandra Dutt**. Resolutions were passed condemning the second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill and urging ratepayers to be ready for a no-tax campaign.



participate.

C. 195      363. Bangiya Bekar Sangha (C.L.)  
20. 6. 39

It is proposed to form a branch of the Sangha in North Calcutta at 2/2 Baghbazar Street. Gopal Banerjee E.D. will organize it.

C. 187      364. C.S.P.  
20. 6. 39

\*  
At a Executive meeting of the party held on 19.6.39, it was decided to hold the conference of the Bengal

Provincial C.S.P. in the 2nd week of September. They

\* Dr. Suresh Banerjee M.L.A.(C.S.P.)  
Sudhin Mazumdar (C.S.P.)  
Gunada Mazumdar (C.S.P.)  
Debendra Nath Sen (B.L.A.,C.S.P.)  
A.M.A.Zaman (C.S.P.)  
Jagat Bose (E.C.,C.S.P.,B.L.A.)  
Sibnath Banerjee (C.S.P.)  
and others.

also resolved to support the Forward Bloc without enlisting themselves as its members.

Gunada Mazumdar (C.S.P.) and Sudhin Mazumdar (C.S.P.) opposed this decision.

BM



M-509/10

13

U.R. 24. 3.8.40

2349.

(h) Second Calcutta Municipal  
Amendment Bill.—

Date—3-8-40.

Place—22, R. G. Kar Road,  
Calcutta.

Audience—20.

C.A. C.A.

Representatives from various Wards,  
including Dr. **Sundarimohan Das** (para.  
1548), **Kishori Mohan Baherjee**, Hono-  
rary Secretary, Rent Payers' Associa-  
tion, resolved to hold protest meetings  
in every Ward, to move the Assembly  
through the members, to send memorials  
to His Excellency the Governor and to  
resort, if necessary, to a "no-tax  
campaign" to secure the withdrawal of  
the Bill.



SOCIALISM: 21-6-39.

340. C.P.I. - Congress.

C.200  
19-6-39.

It is reported that the C.P.I. has decided to enlist its members in the Central Calcutta Congress Committee with a view to gradually capture it. It will, however, not hold any position in the Congress Committee so as to avoid any difference of opinion. Sachi Ganguli (C.P.I.) and Abdul Momin (C.P.I.) have been asked to join the Congress Committee.

341. Communist League.

C.L.18  
19-6-39

It is reported that at a discussion in Soumyon Tagore's house on 17-6-39 Sudhamoy Das Gupta (C.L., E.D.,) and Arun Banarji (C.L.)



M. 29/40

14

W.R. 4-3.8.40

### Miscellaneous.

**2349.** (a) *Condolence for the death of Natabar Chandra Dutt, Councillor, Ward XI, Calcutta Corporation, by the ratepayers of the Ward.—*

*Date—28-7-40.*

*Place—Bangabasi College. CA.*

*President—Dr. **Bamandas Mukherji.***

*Audience—200. CA. CA.*

*Speakers.—**N. C. Chatterji**, Bar.-at-Law (para. 2247d), **Bepin Ganguly** (ex-detenu) (para. 1396) and others.*

The speakers eulogised the deceased as a sincere Congressman. Two resolutions were passed; one of condolence and another appealing to the Corporation to name a street or park after the deceased.



342. Communist Publications.

I.R. 18695  
20-6-39

A copy of Bulletin No. 20 dated 24-5-39 of the International Federation of Trade Unions, has been sent from Paris to the Calcutta Writers' Union at 7, Moulvi Lane, a haunt of important C.P.I. members.

343. League of Radical Congressmen.

C. 197  
17-6-39

Hari Kumar Chakravartti (H.C.) is reported to be of opinion that the "Forward Bloc" or Subhas Bose will not accept alternate leadership and further, that as Subhas is continuing the "Forward Bloc" in Bengal, mainly with the intention of maintaining his supremacy in the B.P.C.C. and the Calcutta Corporation, it is certain to be reactionary, and



15

The processionists at (5) carried one Hindu Sabha flag and three posters in Bengali entitled "Dwitia Municipal Amendment Bill Dhangsa Huuk", "Krishi Khatak Rin Sansodhak Bill Dhangsa Hauk" and "Madhyamik Sikshya Bill Dhangsa Hok."

They shouted the slogans as inscribed in the posters.

SC.



- (9) One religion, one culture and one court language.
- (10) Help in the business of the Hindu Business men.
- (11) Victory for Hindu Mahasabha.
- (12) We are against the distribution of Government services exclusively to the Muslims.
- (13) May Savarkar live long.
- (14) Down with Communal Award.
- (15) Students are our strength.
- (16) Fatherland is the Holy Land.

They shouted the following slogans:-

- (1) Bandemataram, (2) Hindu Mahasabha ki jai,
- (3) Hug Ministry Dhanse Hok, (4) Municipal Bill Dhanse Hok (5) Secondary Education Bill Dhanse Hok, (6) British Shamrajyabad. Dhanse Hok, (7) Raj Bandider Mukti Chai,
- (8) Neer Savarkar ki jai.

The processionists at (2) carried on big Hindu Mahasabha flag inscribed with a Swastika, sword and 'Om'.

Slogans:- same as at No.(1).

The processionists at (3) carried one big red banner inscribed "Ward No.22 Hindu Mahasabha" in Bengali and another banner inscribed "Nikhil Banga Pratibandh Dibash (All Bengal Protest Day) and some small posters and 3 small Hindu Sabha Flags.

The processionists at (4) carried 4 Hindu Sabha banners, seven posters and 20 small Hindu Sabha flags. They shouted the following slogans:- (1) Bandemataram, (2) Hindu Mahasabha ki jai, (3) Dwitiya Municipal Bill Dhangsa hauk, (4) Madhyamik Sikshya Bill Dhangsa hauk, (5) Chastri Kastak Ayin Dhangsa hauk.



List of processions on "All Bengal Protest Day"  
on 4-8-40 (vide para. 72 )

	<u>TIME.</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>NO.OF PERSONS.</u>	<u>LED BY.</u>
<u>O.R.34764</u> <u>5-8-40</u>	5-30 p.m.	Ward No.27 Hindu Sabha office, Rash Behari Avenue.	Hazra Park.	33 persons.	-
	5-30 P.M.	Russa Road.	Hazra Park.	50 including 20 volunteers of Bharat Sevashram Sangha.	-
	6-30 p.m.	Russa Road.	Hazra Park.	70 persons of Ward 22 Hindu Sabha.	-
<u>O.R.34702</u> <u>5-8-40</u>	5-40 P.M.	College Square.	Shradhanan- anda Park.	50 persons belonging to Wards 8 and 9 Hindu Mahasabha.	-
<u>O.R.34701</u> <u>5-8-40</u>	5-30 p.m.	12, Sree Nath Das Lane, Calcutta.	Sradhananda Park.	20 persons of Ward No.10 Hindu Sabha.	Jiten Ghose.

Note:- The processionists at No.(1) carried one big red banner inscribed "unity is strength in the Kaliyuga" in Bengali, and one banner inscribed "Ward 27 Hindu Sabha" in Hindi, one Hindu Mahasabha flag with the inscription "Om" and with a Swastika and sword and also 16 posters in Bengali entitled as follows:-

- (1) Let Hindusthan be eternal.
- (2) Down with secondary Education Bill.
- (3) Independence is my birthright.
- (4) Down with Imperialism.
- (5) May Hindu Sakti Sangha gain in strength.
- (6) Down with Municipal Bill.
- (7) We demand release of the political prisoners.
- (8) Down with the Anti-Hindu conspiracy of the ministry.



18  
M.R.34203  
5-8-40

\*  
At Hazra Park among other speakers Narendra Kumar Basu observed that the ministers had behaved in a manner liable to prosecution under section 153A I.P.C.

-----  
\*Mrinal Kanti Bose,  
Sitamath Banerjee,  
Haricharan Ghosh  
and the President.  
-----

The High Court had decided that they were part and parcel of the Government and they would claim this privilege if

Government sanction was applied for their prosecution in courts. Their aims in promulgating these bills were to drive the Hindus to exasperation and terrorism and commence Hindu repression in Bengal. Dr. Suniti Chatterji asked how could the Government expect help from the Hindus when it failed to redress their grievances and fostered communalism. Dr. Shyamaprasad Mukherjee remarked that unless immediate steps were taken against the repressive measures on the Hindus such a fire would break out in Bengal as would be impossible to quench.

Two dozen volunteers in uniform carrying tridents and wearing red badges of the Hindu Jakti Sangha were noticed in this meeting.

M.R.34704  
5-8-40

2  
\*  
At Shradhdhananda Park among other speakers Naren Das expressed admiration of Hindu terrorists and observed that the British Government was conspiring against the Hindus to check them and that the Award and the

-----  
\*Dr. Indranarain Sen-Gupte,  
Sanat Kumar Roy Chaudhury,  
Prof. Ramnarain Singh,  
Ashutosh Lahiri  
and the President.  
-----

Hug Ministry tried to slay the Hindus of Bengal. Sachin Das stated that it was shameful that

out of 33 crores of Indians 8 crores were traitors and enemies to the cause of freedom. If the Hindus were not afraid of the mighty Imperial Government they should not be afraid of fighting 8 crores of illiterate people and bringing them to their knees.

After sometime Dr. Shyamaprasad left the meeting at Shradhdhananda Park and Nepal Roy presided.



M-509/60 19

72. All Bengal Protest Day (4-8-40).

The All Bengal Protest Day referred to in July para.230 was held by the Bengal Hindu Mahasabha. Processions (as per list attached) were organized and two meetings were held, one at Hazra Park under the presidency of Dr. Pramathanath Banerji M.L.A.(Central) and the other at Sraddhananda Park (3000) under the presidency of Dr. Shyamaprasad Mukherjee. The speeches contained a vehement attack on the Ministry and a strong protest against the second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill, the secondary Education Bill and the Bengal Agricultural Debtors' Bill. Resolutions to this effect were passed at both meetings. Dr. Shyamaprasad Mukherjee, the Chief speaker at both gatherings held out a threat to Government that if these measures were not withdrawn within a month, he would start Civil Disobedience with 2500 volunteers of whom he would be the first and would launch such an agitation, legal or illegal, as would make the maintenance of peace impossible.



21

Ashu Das gave an account of the alleged maltreatment of the political prisoners such as Deben Sen, Nripen Chakravarti and others within the Central Jail at Alipur and informed the audience that these prisoners would resort to hunger strike if the public would not launch an agitation to effect their release.

Resolutions passed:-

- (1) Demanding the release of Subhas Bose and all other prisoners arrested in connection with the Holwell Monument movement.
- (2) Demanding release of political prisoners and the Defence of India Act prisoners.
- (3) Condemning the second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill and the Secondary Education Bill.
- (4) Protesting against the D.P.I.'s circular and demanding its withdrawal. (This resolution was not put to vote).
- (5) Expressing deep sorrow at the death by Pneumonia of Jatindra Nath Biswas inside the jail.



14/509/40  
MISCELLANEOUS: 13-8-40.

122. Anti Ministry agitation.

22  
on 10-8-40

M.R. 36350  
13-8-40

In a public meeting (2500) organized by the  
at Deshbandhu Park  
B.P.C.C. (suspended) / the various District Congress

Committees under it and presided over by Santosh Kumar  
\*\*

Bose M.L.A. the president and the other speakers generally

*Santosh Kumar Bose, M.L.A.	condemned the action of the Bengal Ministry in not releasing Subhas Chandra Bose and the other prisoners arrested in connection with the Holwell Monument move- ment and protested against the
Sarat Ch. Bose, M.L.A.	
B.C. Chatterji, M.L.A.	
Haripada Chatterji, M.L.A.	
Dharanath Bhattacharji, M.L.A.	
Kali Pal, M.L.A.	
Lakshmi Kanta Sil, M.L.A.	
Mani Bhushan Mukherji, M.L.A.	
Bokai Nagari, M.L.A.	
Shu Das, M.L.A.	
Atul Ch. Kumar, M.L.A.	

second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill and the Secondary

**B.C. Chatterji, M.L.A.	Educational Bill. Haripada Chatterji speaking on the International situation remarked that the British masters (of the Ministers)
Haripada Chaudhury, M.L.A.	
Dr. Indra Narain Sen, M.L.A.	
Shutosh Das, M.L.A.	
Atul Kumar, M.L.A.	
Abdul Wahed Bokainagar, M.L.A.	
Sarat Ch. Bose, M.L.A.	
Jyotsna Roy, M.L.A.	

were entangled in their own trap for trying to corner  
Russia by wooing Germany and the talk of liberation of the  
weak nations was hypocrisy.

Sarat Bose added that an agitation would be  
launched to effect the release of the prisoners arrested  
in connection with the Holwell Monument movement, if they  
would not be released within a week or so. It was  
rumoured now, he said, that Subhas was arrested under the  
D.I. Act and not in connection with the Holwell Monument  
movement. It might be possible in view of the fact that  
owing to the opposition of the Forward Bloc, the Compromise  
Scheme could not be effected.



1759/40  
28  
CONGRESS: 22-8-40.

184. B.P.C.C. (suspended).

N.R. 37986  
20-8-40

A meeting (400) was held at Albert Hall on 18-8-40 under the auspices of the banned B.P.C.C. presided over by Hemendra Prosad Ghose and later on by Atul Chandra Sen, who along with Lakkhi Kanta Seal, Atul Chandra Kumar, Negendra Nath Bhattacharji, A.M.A. Zaman spoke.

\*Hemendra Prosad Ghose,  
Dharanath Bhattacharji,  
Lakkhi Kanta Seal,  
Monibhusan Mukherji,  
Atul Ch. Sen,  
Atul Ch. Kumar,  
A.M.A. Zaman,  
Tarak Das,  
Aftabul Islam.

Resolutions demanding the immediate release of all political prisoners and condemning the Bengal Ministry for sponsoring the Calcutta Corporation Second Amendment Bill and the Secondary Educational Bill

were passed.

Atul Ch. Sen condemned the ministry also for taking notice of the "Sree and Lotus" emblem of the University banner while overlooking the Christian Gods and Goddesses represented on the terrace of the Writers' Buildings.

Copies of a printed unauthorised objectionable leaflet in Bengali styled "Revolutionists Union" were thrown amongst the audience.



# EMPHATIC DEMAND FOR RELEASE OF SJ. SUBHAS BOSE

## RESOLUTION PASSED AT CALCUTTA CORPORATION MEETING

Calcutta, Saturday.

A strong and almost a united demand for the release of S. Subhas Chandra Bose, the beloved leader of the country was recorded at a special meeting of the Calcutta Corporation held this evening, when the resolution of Mr. Nares Nath Mukherji urging the Government for the immediate release of S. Bose was passed by the entire House with the exception of the European members who voted against the resolution.

The most noteworthy feature of the meeting was that the members of the nominated group also associated themselves with the general feeling expressed by the majority members of the House.

Supporting the resolution the Mayor said that he was in full agreement with the resolution. There was no charge levelled against Mr. Bose—except the charge revealed in the statement of Mr. Amery. If the Holwell Monument was the cause, and the Satyagraha launched by S. Bose the motive of the agitation, the Mayor proceeded the Satyagraha had already been stopped and the monument was also going to be removed very soon. He hoped that Mr. Fazlul Huq should act according to the statement he made, and release Mr. Bose forthwith.

In course of his speech S. Nares Nath Mukherji said that it was S. Bose, who tried his best to unite the two communities and that S. Bose was the only man who was able to usher in a good era of co-operation between the various communities. It was regrettable that he should be kept in jail—especially at a time when they needed him most.

Demanding S. Bose's release S. Debabrata Mukherji said that the Holwell Monument was going to be removed—but the leader who led the movement was still kept behind the prison bars.

Strongly criticising the Government policy S. N. C. Chatterji said that continued incarceration caused impediment to civic administration. When S. Bose was the Chief Executive Officer 16 years ago, the Government sent him away under one of its lawless laws. S. Chatterji recalled another incident and said that the Govern-

ment again restricted S. Bose's liberty and freedom when the later was the Mayor of the Corporation. Proceeding Mr. Chatterji said that he had studied English Constitution and that the English law did not allow detention without trial. No one should be imprisoned without proper trial—that was the cardinal principle of British Constitution. It was a first class national tragedy that S. Bose was removed when an attempt was made to establish the privileges of freedom. They were not going to appeal said Mr. Chatterji, to the Government for S. Bose's release, but that they were demanding it and that Government must meet this national demand.

In opposing the resolution Mr. Vernon, the leader of the European group said that S. Bose would not be conducive to the interests of India and for the matter of defence. If he was released in this war time he was sure to work antagonistically against the country.

Mr. M. A. Isphani supported the resolution and said that S. Bose's release was absolutely necessary for better administration of the country. If he was arrested in connection with the Holwell Monument agitation, he urged the Government to release S. Bose since the movement had ceased.

Vehemently protesting against the allegations hurled by Mr. Vernon against S. Subhas Ch. Bose Mr. Badruzzoha in a forceful speech said that S. Bose was one of the flowers of the nation and that his release would not complicate the situation at all.

Mr. B. N. Roy Chowdhury (nominated) spoke in favour of the resolution and urged the Government to release S. Bose in the interests of peace, concord, harmony and amity.

Rising to support the resolution Mr.

(Continued from column 4)

B. C. Chatterji criticised the incarceration of S. Bose as a disaster. If communal amity was the basis of granting freedom to Indians, S. Chatterji said, S. Bose should be released, for S. Bose always worked for this unity.

Refuting the unfounded charges made by Mr. Vernon against S. Bose, S. Chatterji said that only charge against S. Bose was what was mentioned in Mr. Amery's statement.

S. Satish Bose in a forceful speech characterised the unfounded allegations of the leader of the European group as tissues of falsehood.

Mr. S. C. Roy Chowdhury, Mr. J. N. Mondal and others also spoke in favour of the resolution.

As stated, the resolution was carried.

Advance  
8 25 8 40  
P  
26



224. Secondary Education Bill and Second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill.

M.E. 32191.  
26.8.40.

On 25.8.40 in a public meeting (about 3,000) jointly organised by the B.P.C.C. (suspended) and the B.P.Hindu Mahasava, under the presidentship of Sir Manmatha Nath Mukherjee at the Sraddhananda Park, the

president and the speakers\* generally condemning the

Lekshmi Kanta Moitra,  
Sarat Ch. Bose,  
Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee,  
Mr. Gibbon (Anglo-Indian Association),  
Sir Manmatha Nath Mukherjee,  
Others present:  
S. P. Ch. Bose (brother of Sarat Chandra Bose),  
M. Lal Mitra (Congress Nationalist Party),  
Ashutosh Lahiri,  
Padamraj Jain, Bhagirath Das,  
Dr. Promatha Banerjee,  
Prof. Raj Kumar Chakravarty,  
Sanat Kumar Roy Choudhury,  
Ragan Das (B.P.Hindu Sava),  
M. U. Ghose (E.D.),  
Harendra Kumar Basu, Advocate,  
J. C. Gupta,  
Lekshmi Kanta Sil.

Secondary Education Bill and the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill, and bitterly attacked the Ministry. They proposed to set up a national Education Board for the Hindus in Bengal if and when the bill was enacted.

A resolution demanding the withdrawal of the Secondary Education Bill and the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill was passed.

About a dozen volunteers in short and shirt and wearing a Congress badge were noticed. Copies of a printed pamphlet in Bengali containing the speech of Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee at the All Bengal Protest Day meeting in the Sraddhananda Park on 4.8.40 were distributed in the meeting.



M 509/40

29

112. Second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill.

C.R. 60897.  
16.9.40.

On 15.9.40, a meeting of (30) rate-payers of Ward 27 was organised by the <sup>cl.</sup> East League at 7, Srimohan Lane, Tollygunge. A resolution protesting against the Second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill, 1940, was passed. The president, Rama Nath Roy, said that Hospitals, libraries and other public institutions organised by the Hindus would suffer for want of Corporation help, when this Bill becomes law, although the Hindus contribute the largest amount to the Corporation revenue.

WH.



M. 509/40

30

MISCELLANEOUS: 18-9-40.

119. Ministerial Affairs.

O.R. 60759  
14-9-40

A well written anonymous letter in Bengali signed "Harbinger of Death" has been received by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

The writer says he has been watching how the Hon'ble Chief Minister in league with the British Government, the enemy, has been ruining his Hindu brethren and the country. He noted how he had expressed no sympathy for the Hindu sufferers in Sind and how he was trying to pass the Secondary Education and the Municipal Amendment bills and was provoking a Civil War with the Hindus. Unless he withdraw these bills within three days he would be killed.

SC.



M 509/40

31

24. B.P.C.C. (suspended).

M.R. 53159.  
30.9.40.

In a public meeting (about 2000) held at the Sraddha-  
nanda Park under the auspices of the suspended B.P.C.C.  
and presided over by Sarat Chandra Bose, the marginally\*

\*Rajendra Deb (F.B.),  
Atul Ghose (E.D.),  
Charu Roy (M.L.A.),  
Dr. Pramatha Banerji (M.L.C.),  
Purusottam Ray,  
Moulavi Ahmed Ali,  
Santosh Kumar Bose (M.L.A.),  
Krishna Kumar Chatterji (F.B.),  
Sarat Ch. Bose.  
Others present.  
Hemanta Bose (F.B.).

noted speakers protested against  
the Secondary Education Bill, the  
Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill,  
and the arrest and detention without  
trial of Congress workers under the  
Defence of India Rules and demanded  
an enquiry by an independent

committee into the shooting incident at Kulti. Dr. Pramatha  
Banerjee said that there was a limit of forbearance of  
the Hindus. They were unable to remain passive any longer

3.

As a result of the breach of peace of the country by  
the Ministry, the mind of the people which was under-  
going a change would burst forth in the form of a fight.  
Krishna Kumar Chattarjee remarked that the prisoners  
in the Berhampur Jail are reported to be subjected to  
torture.

Sarat Chandra Bose added that it might be  
necessary to launch the C.D. Movement in the near future,  
if persons detained under the Defence of India Rules  
are not released.



A. B. Patheja 22.11.40.

11.40

35

Advance 3 B. x. 40.

E.F.

34

*4/11/40*  
**Calcutta Ratepayers' Conference**

To the residents of those wards of Calcutta where there is no ratepayers' Association or Ward Civic Association, the undersigned begs to appeal to arrange for a public meeting for election of Delegates to the Calcutta Ratepayers' Conference which will hold its session by about the middle of November, 1940.

Hitherto although a number of Associations have joined us we have not heard of any Association, Ratepayers or Civic Welfare, in Wards 2, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 25, 26, 28, 30 in spite of our many enquiries sent to different persons of these wards. We cordially invite any Association interested in Civic affairs or in its absence any ratepayer and resident in these wards to co-operate with us and help us to form Associations and to get quota number of delegates from these wards.

As is already known a Reception Committee has been formed of the representatives of different Association which already met once. A Working Committee is also formed which met several times.

Any further particular will be available from the General Secretary at his office. 'Keshub Bhaban,' 22, R. G. Kar Road, Shambazar, who welcomes communications from those interested.

Sd/- Kishoree Mohan Banerjee.  
General Secretary.

Calcutta Ratepayers' Conference

Calcutta, Oct. 17.

*M 309/100*



A. B. Patheja 22.11.40.

9.11.40

35

M.509/60

KA

## CALCUTTA CORPORATION

### Reduced To A Department Of The Government

#### SIR N. N. SIRCAR'S CRITICISM

#### While Travancore Progressing The Hands Of The Clock In Bengal Are Put Back

TRIVANDRUM, Oct. 31.

SIR N. N. SIRCAR, ex-Law Member, Government of India this evening inaugurated the Municipal Corporation of Trivandrum which came into existence on the birthday of H. H. the Maharaja of Travancore yesterday. A message from H. H. the Maharaja of Travancore read on the occasion, wished all success to the Corporation in its efforts to promote civic welfare and amenities of the capital and expressed his confidence that no effort would be spared by those in charge of new duties and high responsibilities to make Trivandrum a real city beautiful.

Sir N. N. Sircar said that he was glad to find that local self-government in this State was moving forward, but they would be wrong if they thought that everywhere on the other parts of the world also progress was being maintained and hands of the clock were not being put back.

Sir N. N. Sircar referred as a concrete instance to the Calcutta Corporation and said that under the new Bill introduced in the Bengal Legislature—and he had no doubt that it would be passed into law—the Calcutta Corporation would be reduced to a Department of the Government. The fact that the hands of the clock were being thus put back in some places made him appreciate more the progress that had been made by Travancore.

Sir N. N. Sircar also unveiled a portrait of the Dewan Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar to be hung in the Corporation Hall and in doing so paid a tribute to Sir Ramaswami Aiyar on his great record of good work for Travancore. He also paid tributes to H. H. the Maharaja and his mother and said that Their Highness had no interest at heart but the progress of their people."—(A.P.)



# ADVANCE

Friday, November 29, 1940

## "CHRONIC ARREARS"

The Accountant-General, Bengal, has drawn pointed attention to the steadily deteriorating financial position of the Corporation of Calcutta. The cash balance has been falling from year to year. In 8 years' time the balance has been reduced by no less than 33 lakhs of rupees. The 'chronic arrears' in the collection of consolidated rates have deservedly come in for a lot of censure at the hands of the Accountant-General:

The chronic arrears in the collection of consolidated rates have contributed largely to the unsatisfactory and deteriorating character of the finances. The outstandings are increasing by leaps and bounds. On March 31, 1924, the outstandings were Rs. 3.07 lakhs, on March 31, 1935, they mounted to Rs. 44.49 lakhs and they further increased to Rs. 53.14 lakhs on March 31, 1939. A rise from Rs. 3.07 lakhs to Rs. 53.14 lakhs in the course of 15 years is indeed appalling and unless drastic steps are taken, there is very little chance of any real improvement in the financial position.

The Accountant-General makes the disclosure, very damaging indeed for the Executive of the Corporation, that 'a sum of nearly Rs. 80,000 has been outstanding on account of consolidated rates from 15 persons for periods varying from one to six years.' Suits have not been filed nor have warrants been issued in these cases.

The Collector seems to be of opinion that there are certain defects in the Act which hamper collection. "Every year," he says, "large outstandings are being placed before the Finance Committee and everyone is feeling that amendment of the Act is necessary to remove the difficulties of collection." We would like to know whether the Corporation of Calcutta has ever placed these difficulties before the Government of Bengal and sought an amendment of the Act.

Anyway, whoever may be to blame—the framers of the Act or the Collector and his staff—the ratepayers cannot but be alarmed at the steady depletion of the cash balance and at the "chronic arrears" in collection. There are reasonable grounds for apprehension that unless the rot can be arrested and collection somehow or other improved the Corporation will be forced to resort to fresh taxation in the beginning of the financial year. The Government of India are im-

posing fresh taxation. The Bengal Sales Tax Bill will be introduced in the ensuing session of the Bengal Legislature. Why should the Corporation fail to take advantage of

the war and make hay while the sun shines? That is how some of our City Fathers and the Executive of the Corporation may argue. There are Ratepayers' Associations in all wards of the city. These must make a timely protest against any contemplated move for the enhancement of the consolidated rate.

Advance 9 29. 11. 40

E.F.

34



M-509/110 38  
1.6.41.41  
138  
(f) **Calcutta Rate Payers' Association.—Protest against the Second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill.**

Preliminary to the holding of a Conference at the Town Hall on the 9th and 10th January, 1941, meetings were organised, during the period under review, by this association in various parts of the city as shown below :—

*Date*—27-12-40.

*Place*—St. James' Square. C.

*President*—**Bepin Behari Ganguly** (ex-detenu) (para. 3461 of 1940).

*Audience*—200. C.

*Speakers*.—**Kalipada Mukherjee** (ex-detenu), **Kishori Banerji**, Editor, "Industry" and others.

*Date*—28-12-40.

*Place*—Park Circus Maidan.

*President*—**Biman Ch. Bose**. C.

*Audience*—30.

*Speakers*.—**Taranath Roy**, **Rajani Mukherji**, (para. 134 *supra*) **Bepin Ganguly** (*supra*) and others. C.

*Date*—29-12-40.

*Place*—Deshapriya Park, Ballygunge. C.

*President*—Pandit **Ashutosh Bhattacharjee**.

*Audience*—30.

*Speakers*.—**Taranath Roy Chaudhuri**, **Kalipada Mukherji** (*supra*), **Bepin Ganguly** (*supra*) and others.

*Date*—30-12-40.

*Place*—Maddox Square. C.

*President*—**J. C. Gupta** (para. 133a *supra*).

*Audience*—50. C.

*Speakers*.—**Benoyendra Bagchi**, **Kishori Banerji** (*supra*) and **Taranath Roy Chaudhuri** (*supra*).

In all these meetings the speakers condemned the Bill as a communal measure and appealed to the rate payers of Calcutta to record their protest in the Conference to be held at the Town Hall. Resolutions on these lines were passed.



MEMO.

Bengal Form No. 4261.

SECTION

Town.  
Suburbs.  
Port.

The 2-12-1940

13986- report that  
no case under the  
defence of India  
has been reported with  
as during the war  
ending 1-12-40

Serials 6-1222  
through No. 57

JG

9 serials 2/12



H. Standard 5/9.1.41.

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M. 509/40

**KARADATRI SANGHA**

**Dissociates From Proposed  
Rate-payers' Conference**

Sr. Hara Prasad Majumdar, Secretary of the Karadatri Sangha, Calcutta, in a communication to the President of the proposed Calcutta Rate-payers' Conference, notified to be held on the 9th January, 1941 and the Chairman of its Reception Committee, says:—

"We beg to intimate to you that as the acts of Mr. K. M. Banerjee, the General Secretary of your conference, had been unconstitutional and as the procedure adopted by him had been irregular in relation to certain important matters, we beg to disassociate ourselves from the conference.

"We add at the same time to make our point of view clear that we are for total rejection of the present Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill and further for the repeal of the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill immediately preceding it and since passed into an Act."



কালকাতা করদাতা

যোগদানে অসম্মত

সম্মেলনের দৈনিকটোরীর বিরুদ্ধে  
অনিঃশ্রুত ও অবৈধ কার্য করার  
অভিযোগ

কালকাতার করদাতাদের প্রতিনিধিত্ব সম্মেলন

৯ই জানুয়ারী তারিখে কালকাতা করদাতা সম্মেলনের যে অধিবেশন হইবে বলিয়া বিজ্ঞাপিত হইয়াছে, উক্ত প্রতিনিধিত্ব কালকাতা করদাতা সম্মেলনের সভাপতি এবং অভিযুক্ত সর্মিতির চেয়ারম্যানকে কালকাতা করদাতা সম্মেলনের সম্পাদক শ্রীযুক্ত হরপ্রসাদ মজুমদার একখানি পত্র লিখিয়া জানাইয়াছেন :-

"আমরা আপনাকে জানাইতেছি যে, আপনাদের সম্মেলনের জেনারেল সেক্রেটারী শ্রীযুক্ত কে এম ব্যানার্জীর কার্যাবলী বিধিবদ্ধ হইয়া নাই এবং কয়েকটি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ব্যাপারে তিনি যে কার্যপদ্ধতি অবলম্বন করিয়াছেন, তাহাও অনিশ্চিত হইয়াছে বলিয়া আমরা উক্ত সম্মেলনে যোগদান করিব না।

"এই সত্ত্বে আমাদের অভিযুক্ত সুস্পষ্ট-রূপে ব্যক্ত করার জন্য ইহাও জানাইতেছি যে, আমরা বর্তমান কালকাতা মিউনিসিপ্যাল আইনের সংশোধন বিলটি সম্পূর্ণরূপে অগ্রাহ্য করারই পক্ষপাতী এবং ইহার অব্যবহিত পক্ষেই কালকাতা মিউনিসিপ্যাল আইন সংশোধনের জন্য যে বিলটি পেশ করা হয় এবং বাহা আইনে পরিণত হইয়াছে, তাহা রদ হওয়াও চাই।"

M 509/40

Arundh Baran Patra 8 9.1.41.

R. S. S. S.

40

2/1/41 CS Bureau

to a per bl for 14/1

Hara Prasad Mazumdar, Secy of the Calcutta Kaddati Sangha - informs the President & the Chairman of the Reception Committee of the proposed (since held on 9/1/41 at 10/1/41) Calcutta Kaddati Sangha that the Sangha dissuades from the conference on account of the irregularities in the activities of K. M. Bhowmik, the Genl Secy - his defective programme work. The Sangha urges the rejection of the proposed second amendment

on file of the proposed second amendment Bill and also the repeal of the first amendment Bill C. Bhowmik 17/1/41



M-509/100

A-B. Patrika 21.1.41.

41

Ac 1 4/100

AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA

# CLARION CALL TO RATE-PAYERS

## 'RESIST THE BILL'

### A Measure That Rivets The Fetters Of Servitude

#### DESTRUCTION OF SELF-GOVERNMENT

#### Citizens' Unanimous Resolve To Carry On Agitation Against Municipal Amendment Bill

**S**TRONG condemnation and emphatic protest against the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill, which is before the Bengal Legislature was voiced at the Calcutta Ratepayers' Conference which resumed its sitting on Friday morning.

The Government was urged to withdraw the Bill. But if they persisted with it, the Conference called upon the rate-payers of the city to resist the Bill. If the Bill was passed into law the Conference called upon the rate-payers to refuse to co-operate with the City Corporation and called upon Councillors who represented the rate-payers to withdraw forthwith from Corporation.

The Conference concluded its sitting after three hours' deliberation and appointing a Working Committee, representative of all shades of opinion, for the purpose of carrying on agitation against the Bill.

#### "AN UNMISTAKABLY COMMUNAL MOTIVE"

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee moved:—

A. This Conference of the rate-payers of Calcutta has given its careful consideration to the Calcutta Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1940, and is of opinion:

- (i) That by divesting the Calcutta Corporation of some of the most fundamental powers of self-government, the Bill strikes at the very root of the autonomy of the Corporation and virtually destroys its self-governing character.
- (ii) That the claim that the Bill is intended solely to improve the efficiency and tone of the Corporation's administration and would effectively eliminate all extraneous influences on the administration prejudicial to the interests of rate-payers is entirely unfounded; and that, on the contrary, there is great apprehension that by transferring control of the Corporation into the hands of the government, the Bill would serve to make the Corporation's administration subservient to extraneous influences of a pernicious character.

- (iii) That in utter disregard of all principles of the autonomy of local bodies, the Bill proposes to transfer power from the city's rate-payers to a party, the majority of whose members represent rural areas and, as such, have but little stake in the city and on whom the city's rate-payers must

rely for the maintenance of the mantle of freedom and, in the event of the Bill being passed into law, in spite of the clear expression of public opinion of the citizens of this City, this Conference calls upon all Councillors who represent the rate-payers of the City to withdraw forthwith from the Corporation.

Forty years ago, observed Mr. N. C. Chatterjee, in moving the resolution in this historic hall was sounded the clarion call of Sir Surendra Nath Banerjee against the pernicious Mackenzie Bill which was manufactured by the bureaucracy for destruction of self-government in this city. They all knew how Bengal rallied round the banner of Surendra Nath. Thereafter from the days of Deshabandhu Chittaranjan the greatest and foremost nationalists of this province had steadily sought for the restoration of self-government in this great city of Calcutta. Ultimately, Surendranath as the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government introduced the Bill which culminated in the Calcutta Municipal Act of 1923.

From his practical experience of the day-to-day administration of the Calcutta Corporation Mr. Chatterjee could say that isolation of the Muslim community into a watertight compartment and into separate electorate had led to the return of representatives to the City Corporation

depute officers to hold inspection and examination of the work of the Corporation. During the 16 years since the assumption of the Swaj Party or the Congress Party of the affairs of the Corporation, the Bengal Government had never deputed one single officer to make any single inspection of the administration. During this period the Bengal Government had never on any single occasion exercised this power conferred on them by section 16 of the Act. Under section 18, the local Government had got power to take drastic action against the Corporation. Now the Government of Bengal in the statement of objects and reasons had the effrontery to say that "complaint of mal-administration in the various departments of the Corporation which was deliberate infringement of the provisions of the law had been persistently brought to their notice."

If it was so, Mr. Chatterjee held, surely the Government of Bengal was guilty of the gross dereliction of duty. They had power under the Act to take drastic action against the Corporation, but not on a single occasion they sought to exercise that power to rectify "the deliberate infringement of the provisions of the law."

#### MUSLIM LEAGUE IDEAL

Mr. Chatterjee was convinced that the Muslim League did not want an Act for purification of the Calcutta Corporation. They wanted absolute control and domination of the civic body. When the other day Mr. Chatterjee was making his submission on the draft report he had to write out according to the resolution of the Special Committee of the Corporation one of the League members stood up and said, "we want this bill, because we know we can never rule Bengal unless we rule the coffers of the Corporation. The coffers of the Corporation of Calcutta meant 2 crores and 50 lakhs; the coffers of the Corporation meant giving appointments to the tune of 90 lakhs of rupees; it means dealing out contracts to the extent of fifty to sixty lakhs of rupees. They wanted power to place the civic administration and its financial resources absolutely under the domination of the Muslim League. All this talk of purification and of efficiency was mere camouflage, mere pretext.

Was it credible, enquired the speaker, that the Ministerial party wanted to purify the civic administration? One had simply to look at the way in which the Muslim League Party had been carrying the city administration. The Calcutta Corporation to-day was to meet the deficit of 10 lakhs of rupees in the current year's budget. In spite of that they were increasing overhead charges not for offering amenities to the rate-payers of Calcutta but for the purpose of giving jobs to the henchmen of the League. They had secured the appointment of the Assistant Education Officer although actually there was no Education Officer for eight months. And the post had gone to ex-secretary of the Muslim League. This party and these people had the temerity to say that appointments in the Corporation during the Congress regime were made on party considerations. They had removed the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" from the list of their advertisements and had put down the "Star of India". That was indeed a great achievement! They had secured the eviction of the "Jugantar" and had put down "Azad" the Muslim League.

## 'Resist the Bill'

(Continued From)

under the influence of the party. So the rate that political party, namely, Congress, had said that the city would be benefited by the Bill. Mr. Bose said this was the case. who would not want this were the nephews of the Party. Already they knew, nephews in the Government but the number of nephews was not large. Every member of the Coalition Party had got to for his nephew, otherwise would break up. They tried to grab the Corporation, provide the nephew of the Coalition Party. The whole object of the bill was to give the Muslim League reasons for gratification for important jobs to Muslims from outside. Mr. Bose, therefore, urged Muslim citizens of Calcutta make it a common cause of Hindus and others in the actment of the Bill.

Begum Muzajada opposed by whom the self-Govt of Calcutta



- have no influence or control.
- (iv) That the Bill has behind it an unmistakably communal motive. The first Municipal Amendment Act sponsored by the present Ministry, disproportionately increased the Muslim strength, destroyed the system of joint electorates and through various other devices virtually reduced the Hindus to the position of a minority even though they form the preponderant majority of the city's population and are by far the largest contributors to the city's coffers: the present amendment Bill has as its dominant object the final consolidation of the strength of a communal party over the administration of the Corporation.
- (v) That such provisions of the Bill as empower the Government to appoint the Chief Executive Officer, and to set up a Service Commission whose personnel is to be selected and tenure determined by the Government themselves, to control all appointments under the Corporation are not at all calculated to serve the interests of the rate-payers but are simply devices for obtaining communal control over the Corporation for the Coalition Party and also to impose a heavy burden on the rate-payers of the City.
- (vi) That the provisions of the Bill relating to the supersession of particular departments of the Corporation and the entire dissolution of the Corporation itself practically at the sweet will of the Government are most dangerous and highly objectionable.
- (vii) That if the Bill were really intended for the benefit of the Corporation of Calcutta and the rate-payers, then the Government of Bengal ought to have furnished particulars in support of their allegations against the civic administration and ought to have afforded the Corporation the chance of meeting the allegations and the Bengal Government ought not to have rushed through the Bill without circulating the same for public opinion throughout the Province.
- (viii) That the Bill as it stands is being proceeded with against the declared views of the Corporation and a strong body of popular representatives in the Assembly and would certainly have been rejected in toto if submitted to the test of a referendum of the rate-payers of Calcutta.
- B. This Conference accordingly records its strong condemnation of, and emphatic protest against the Bill and urges upon the Government to withdraw the Bill forthwith.
- C. This Conference calls upon the rate-payers of this City to resist the Bill, and if the Bengal Ministry persists in proceeding with the retrograde measure, then this Conference calls upon the rate-payers to refuse to co-operate with the City Corporation deprived of its autonomy and shown of its

tion who were insensitive to the general well-being. They thought in terms of purely communalism and nothing else.

Did they know, Mr. Chatterjee asked his audience, why that bill was sought to be introduced, this bill coming in such a quick succession after the last Amendment Act? Why was Mr. Fazlul Huq trying in a subtle manner to introduce the elements of Pakistan into the administration of this city? Mr. Chatterjee was shown in Bombay when he went there last year a plan, a map which had been drawn by the sponsors of the Pakistan scheme. They would be amazed to know that according to the Pakistan scheme this city of Calcutta had been put within the Pakistan area. They had the impudence, the effrontery to include this city of Calcutta into a Pakistan area.—Calcutta, 75 p.c. of whose population were certainly Hindus and more than 80 p.c. of taxes were paid by the Hindu rate-payers. The nationalist India, Mr. Chatterjee emphasised, would not tolerate the Pakistan scheme and they would resist by all possible means the introduction of such a pernicious move for vivisectioning their Mother India. Therefore, the present Ministry wanted in a subtle and insidious manner to introduce the retrograde element of Pakistan into the civic administration.

Proceeding Mr. Chatterjee urged his audience not for one moment to believe what the Ministers did say in justification of this bill. They must have noticed what they had stated in the statement of objects and reasons of the bill. Their plea was inefficiency, their pretext was purification. Did they honestly believe that the Bengal Ministry wanted to purify the civic administration of Calcutta? Did they believe they really wanted to do that? In support of reckless charges they had not furnished one instance, a single particular one to establish the charges they had levelled against the Corporation.

#### MUNICIPAL ACT

Not that as a matter of fact the Municipal Act did not require amendment. It required amendment in another fashion. It required amendment for the purpose of drastically amending the section 16 of the Calcutta Municipal Act. Under that section the Government had got power to depute officers to make inspection and examination and report the working of any department. Since Deshabandhu Chittaranjan Das took upon the Mayoralty of the city, the Bengal Government had been saying that there had been systematic mal-administration, and practically that was the charge against the Congress administration of City of Calcutta. They had the temerity to repeat it in the statement of objects and reasons of the bill. They had said that experience of the working of the Calcutta Municipal Act of 1923 during the last 16 years had demonstrated that the political views of the party in power in Corporation had largely influenced the day-to-day administration of the Corporation.

Mr. Chatterjee pointed out that the Bengal Government had power to

because this bill was on the legislative anvil they had the temerity to postpone the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer, with a view to rushing through the bill and securing a nominee of theirs as the Chief Executive Officer.

In case the bill were passed the Councillors would be deprived of their power and the Calcutta Corporation would be reduced to the position of a seventh rate municipality. There was no provision for appointment of a Hindu in the proposed Service Commission. People who knew how the recommendations of the Public Service Commission were twisted and turned down had no faith in such bodies. It would mean a coterie of the henchmen of the communal Ministry who would be controlling the key positions in the Corporation. The Corporation would have little power over its servants. It was not only retrograde but would seriously affect the efficiency of the administration.

On behalf of the ratepayers of Calcutta Mr. N. C. Chatterjee would address an appeal—the final appeal—to Mr. Fazlul Huq. When the world was passing through a crisis might he not ask Mr. Huq and his colleagues: Was this the time to press such a controversial measure? Was this the time to disrupt the city and the province by the introduction of such a reactionary piece of legislation? Indians were being told day after day that Britain was fighting for freedom and democracy but the so-called popular Ministry was trying to crush democracy and freedom of the greatest Corporation of this country. It was time they cried halt.

If the bill were placed on the statute book it would be impossible for any self-respecting Corporation to function if it was divested of its elementary rights and the Government do not want that a self-respecting civic body should continue to function in this province.

If Mr. Chatterjee concluded, all the nationalist forces rallied round a common banner they would be able to resist the bill successfully.

If all sections of the Congress, the Hindu Mahasabha, nationalist Hindus and Nationalist Muslims combined together and if they were determined not to allow the commission of the sacrilege, the destruction of the life work of Surendranath and Chittaranjan, Mr. Chatterjee was sure that the Government would find out at once that they would have no other alternative but to withdraw the pernicious measure.

#### MR. MRINAL KANTI BOSE

Supporting the resolution Mr. Mrinal Kanti Bose said that writ large on the bill in the statement of objects and reasons are the words that this bill was purely communal and a party measure. It had got nothing civic and municipal in it.

Mr. Bose would like to place only two considerations which would convince them that this bill was in name alone Calcutta Municipal Amendment bill. The first consideration was this: The Calcutta Corporation had maintained certain essential services, for instance the health services had been maintained in proper condition. It had scavenger the streets, it had cleansed the by-ways and taken other necessary health measures. The Government had never had occasion to complain and they would find in the statement of objects and reasons of the bill that there had been no grievance about this. Similarly the public utility concerns, such as educational institutions, markets and water services, had been efficiently run.

The Government had made a grievance that the Corporation had for years

(See page 3)



M-539/60 W.R. 24-11-1-41 42  
(c) Calcutta Rate Payers' Conference.—Protest against the 2nd Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill.—

Date—9-1-41.

Place—Town Hall. C.

President—S. N. Banerjee.

Audience—500.

Speakers.—The President and **Naliniranjan Sarkar**, Chairman, Reception Committee.

Date—10-1-41.

Place—Town Hall. J.

President—S. N. Banerjee.

Audience—100.

Speakers.—N. C. Chatterji, Dr. **Shyamaprosad Mukherji** (para. 138a), etc.

The Chairman of the Reception Committee, in welcoming the President and delegates, reviewed the amendment Bill affecting the Calcutta Municipal Administration, and criticised its provisions. The President traced the Constitutional history of the Calcutta Corporation and condemned the Bill. Both observed that the Bill aimed at curbing the powers of the rate-payers and bringing the Calcutta Corporation completely under the control of the Communal Moslem Ministry.

On the second day the speakers again condemned the Bill and urged the holding of protest meetings in all wards. Dr. **Shyama Prosad Mukherji** suggested that failing Constitutional agitation, unconstitutional agitation should be

resorted to and the Hindus who had contributed to the war should not continue to do so unless the Bill was dropped.



## CORPORATION MEETING

## A TENSE SITUATION

Passage-At-Arms Between  
Mayor And Councillors

## MOSLEM COUNCILLORS SUFFER DEFEAT

The Question Of Introduction Of Communal  
Representation In The Matter Of Appointment

**F**OLLOWING two successive major defeats of Moslem Councillors at the hands of the combined Hindu Councillors, both on the question of issuing advertisement for the post of the Chief Executive Officer, and also on the question of introduction of communal representation in the matter of appointment of bailiffs, responsible for the collection of rates and taxes of the city, a tense situation prevailed in the Corporation yesterday (Wednesday). Sharp passage-at-arms took place between Councillors and the Mayor, and taking advantage of the shout of Mr. S. C. Roy Choudhury, implying that the time limit had been reached and that voting should be finished, the Mayor, A. R. Siddiqui, abruptly closed the meeting in the midst of voting, in spite of the protests of the Hindu Councillors.

What might be regarded as a veiled threat was uttered by the Mayor when in putting the amendment of Mr. M. A. H. Ispahani to vote on the question of communal representation in the matter of appointment of bailiffs, he spoke thus:—"This question is a sore point with Moslem members. For four years Mussalmans were out of the Corporation."

Mr. M. M. Burman: That is not correct.

The Mayor: If the House does not allow this question to be decided without any excitement of anykind, I feel that the old sentiment is likely to be revived. I would therefore appeal to the House to judge this point on that background, if possible.

The debate arose when the Corporation took up the question of the agreement to be entered into with the Collector responsible for realisation of rates and taxes.

The Services and the Finance Committee recommended inter alia that the Corporation should allow an adequate establishment to the Collector and all appointments in connexion with that establishment be made by the proper authority provided that appointments in the case of bailiffs should always be made from the panel of persons to be nominated by the Collector.

To this Mr. M. A. H. Ispahani (Moslem League) by way of an amendment urged for the representation of Moslems, Scheduled Castes and other minority communities, according to allotted percentages in the service of the corporation, in the matter of appointment of bailiffs.

Mr. W. A. Burns opposed the amendment. Following him Mr. Hamidoor Rahman (Moslem League) replying said that any opposition to this amendment was "malicious."

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee: I protest against the use of the word. It is unparliamentary.

The Mayor: It is parliamentary.

Mr. Ispahani: Is the tone of Mr. N. C. Chatterjee parliamentary?

Mr. Chatterjee: It is provoked by

The Mayor: The House is closed.  
Mr. Chatterjee: Is it fair?  
The Mayor: Further voting will take place at the next meeting.  
The proceeding then terminated.

## POST OF C. E. O.

PREVIOUS RESOLUTION  
RESCINDED

Earlier, following a requisition by 14 councillors, the Corporation of Calcutta rescinded its previous resolution of January 7 last, postponing consideration of the question of inviting applications for the post of the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation till the first week of March next and decided to reconsider the question.

Mr. B. N. Roy Choudhuri (Nominated):—What would be the effect of this?

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee (Hindu Mahasabha): The effect will be that the Corporation will not commit political suicide.

The Mayor: The effect will be that the resolution previously adopted is rescinded and the matter will come again to the House.

The rescission resolution was carried with the support of all the Hindu Councillors (Bose group and Hindu Mahasabha) and opposed by the Moslems, the Europeans and the nominated group. Mr. W. A. Burns voted for the resolution while Mr. Shamsul Huq remained neutral.

## SMALL POX IN CALCUTTA

It was stated in the Corporation that small pox had already broken out in the city in an epidemic form and a request for appointment of adequate number of vaccinators to vaccinate people in time was made.

The Mayor promised to look into the matter personally.

## SCIENCE Vs. SUPERSTITION

What was described as a fight between science and superstition formed the subject of a debate in the Corporation when the recommendation of the Works Committee advocating that the old system of carting of refuse by carts be reverted to in view of the situation created by the war came up for consideration.

The Corporation had introduced mechanisation of the service in some districts and the question was whether the Corporation should go in for the scheme of mechanisation throughout the city.

Mr. Madan Mohan Burman expressed himself in strong terms against



generate imputation or finance. Can't there be honest difference of opinion? Can't a member speak without imputing motive?

The Mayor: This question is a sore point with Moslem members. Mr. Burns' point of view may be correct on idealistic ground.

The Mayor proceeded: For four years Mussalmans were out of this Corporation. If this House does not allow this question to be decided without any excitement of anykind, I feel that the old sentiment is likely to be revived. I would therefore appeal to the House to judge this point on that background, if possible.

On a division the amendment of Mr. Ispahani was lost by 31 to 24 votes 9 remaining neutrals. The Bose group and the Hindu Mahasabha Councillors and Mr. W. A. Burns opposed the amendment which was supported by the Moslems, the Anglo-Indians and the Nominated group. The European group remained neutral.

At this stage Mr. B. N. Roy Chowdhury (Nominated) rose on a point of order seeking for a ruling of the Mayor whether this decision of the Corporation rejecting the proposal for Communal representation contravened the original resolution of the House adopted on Feb. 15, 1939, providing for representation of the minority communities in a certain proportion.

The Mayor: The point of order is whether this decision upsets the permanent resolution of the Corporation, and my ruling is, that to the extent we have come to a decision to-night, it does interfere with the original resolution.

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee: I submit it does not. There is no resolution that in each department the percentage should be adhered to. Please put the other amendment and the original resolution to the vote.

The Mayor: He has also the right to get a decision of the House on that point. But my ruling is that this decision to an extent interferes with the permanent resolution of the Corporation.

At this stage Mr. S. C. Roy Chowdhury shouted out for 'time' implying thereby that the scheduled time for the meeting to disperse had been reached, and that voting must be finished. The Mayor upon this declared the meeting to be closed in a puff.

Mr. Roy Chowdhury: It is most irregular. Voting must continue.

The Mayor who by this time had left his seat remarked: I may have to ask you to walk out of the House. You are using language to the Chair which does no credit to you. I have tried to the best of my ability to carry out the wishes of the House, to decide things to the best of my capacity and understanding.

Mr. Roy Chowdhury: We do not agree.

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee: Is it fair to the House, to close the meeting in the midst of voting?

mechanisation. Mr. B. C. Chatterjee however took a contrary view and started by saying that unfortunately in this country there was such a thing as ammalgam of science and superstition.

He said that some people, however educated, would stand up for superstition. "If one indictment can be made against us, it is the bullock-cart. Bullock cart is the scandal of India, it is the scandal of our public streets. The sooner it disappears from this country, the better. For anybody to get up and say that bullock carts should replace lorries was like saying that the British Navy should be replaced by country boats. That is ridiculous. I appeal to all to vote for lorries in place of bullock carts so that it will lead to the eventual extinction of that horrible instrument of cruelty."

Mr. W. A. Burns favoured mechanisation and said that it would be a good thing for the Corporation to set an example in that direction.

Mr. Suresh Varma remarked that if civilisation meant impoverishment of our people, that civilisation is nothing but a curse to our country.

Mr. Susil Sen pleaded for caution, remarking that the present time was not opportune to discard the old system altogether, as they had not sufficient provisions against difficulties that might crop up if they went in for complete mechanisation. He reminded Mr. B. C. Chatterjee that three-quarters of this country were not accessible by motor cars.

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee was also in favour of mechanisation. He knew that when Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose was given a cordial reception at Haripura his chariot was drawn by 52 bullocks. But the question was whether they should bring back bullocks from Haripura to Calcutta. In his opinion they would be putting the hands of the clock back if they reverted completely to the old system.

After some discussion the Corporation referred the matter to a joint session of the Works and Finance Committees to explore the financial aspect of the question. The Committees were to submit their report within three weeks to the Corporation.

## NAZI PRESS ANGRY

### R. A. F.'S CHARGE OF ROLES WITH THE LUFTWAFFE

BERLIN, Jan. 14.

The Swedish Press violently attacked by the "Berliner Boersen Zeitung" to-day (Tuesday) and particular offence is taken at a report from the London correspondent of the "Aften Bladet" saying that the R.A.F. was about to change roles with the Luftwaffe.

"By continuously attempting to assist British propaganda 'wig,' says the Nazi paper, 'the Stockholm Press leaves the zone of neutrality and enters the field of laws of fighting in which nothing will be forgiven and forgotten and every stab at Germany will be revenged with a violent blow.'"

—Reuter.



A. B. Patrika & 18.1.41.

M. Soghus  
M. 509/40

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## The Corporation Services

### COMMUNAL RATIO

#### The Chief Minister On Recent Votings

The Hon'ble Mr. A. K. Fazlul Huq, Chief Minister of Bengal, has issued the following statement through the "United Press":—

"The votings in the Calcutta Corporation on Mr. Ispahani's amendment to have a communal ratio fixed for Muslim in some of the Corporation Services, should be taken as a complete answer to the Hindu agitation that by our amendment to the Calcutta Municipal Act, we have reduced the Hindus to a position of political inferiority and helplessness in the Corporation. Thousands of Hindu voices have complained that by our amendment of the Calcutta Municipal Act we not only reduced the Hindus to a minority in the Corporation but have rendered it impossible for the Hindus to assert themselves in the Corporation affairs.

Recent votings have shown that the Hindus have been able to combine themselves and defeat the Muslim League completely. Those who accuse us of having acted prejudicially to the Hindu interests now owe an explanation to us for having misrepresented matters. It is idle to expect a reasonable attitude from our political enemies in Bengal, but all fair-minded people must see that the agitation against the amendment of the Calcutta Municipal Act has been based on lies, misrepresentations and untruths, as is generally the case with agitations against all measures undertaken by the present Government."



A.B. Patrika 24.1.41.

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## RATEPAYERS' CONFERENCE

### FIRST MEETING OF GENERAL COMMITTEE

The undermentioned members were elected as members of the General Committee of the Ratepayers conference recently held in the Town Hall. The first meeting of this committee will be held at the house of the President Mr. S. N. Banerjee at Camac Street the 26th inst. at 3-30 P.M. Members undermentioned are requested to attend this meeting. No separate notice will be given."

#### AGENDA

1. To consider what steps should be taken for holding meeting in different wards to take concerted action against the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill.

Following are office-bearers and members of the General Committee:—

President:—Mr. S. N. Banerjee.

Vice-Presidents:—1. Dr. Shyama Prasad

Mukherjee, 2. Mr. Phanindra Nath Brahma,

3. Mr. N. R. Sarker, 4. Mr. J. N. Basu.

Secretaries:—Dr. Bhupendra Nath Basu and

Mr. Debendra Nath Mukherjee.

Members:—Messrs J. C. Gupta, N. C. Sen,

N. C. Chander, P. Banerjee, Jogendra Nath

Mandal, Shishu Chandra Chakravarty, Sachin-

dra Narayan Sanyal, N. C. Chatterjee, H. P.

Podder, Rajendra Narayan Banerjee, Prabhu

Dayal Himatsinghka, Prof Tinkari De, Mr.

Madan Mohan Burman, Messrs. Hriday

Krishna Ghosh, Tulshi Charan Roy, Satish

Chandra Bose, Narendra Nath Dalal, Bijoy

Kumar Banerjee, Prafulla Kumar Dutt, Bepin

Behari Ganguly, Kishori Mohan Banerjee, Dr.

Charu Chatterjee, Messrs. Makhan Banerjee,

Sallendra Nath Dutt, Lakshmi Kanto Mullick,

Biman Chandra Bose, K. C. Roy Chowdhury,

Bhagat Singh, Rajani Mukherjee, Sachindra

Prasad Bose, Kay Jugai Kishore Sen, Dr. Sun-

dari Mohan Das, Durga Charan Mitra, Kanai

Lal Sarker, Begum Sakina, Nalin Chandra

Paul, Benovendra Prosad Bagchi, Major P.

Burdhan, Kiron Sankar Roy, Rai Narendra

Nath Chowdhury.

M. 509/100



H. Standard of 5.2.41.

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DR. B. N. DE TO BE  
C. E. O.

Services Committee  
Recommendation

It is understood that the Services Standing Committee No. 1 of the Calcutta Corporation has recommended that Dr. B. N. De, Chief Engineer, be appointed as Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for a term of three years, on the retirement of the present incumbent, Mr. J. C. Mookerjee, on March 31 next.

It may be mentioned that the Services Committee was directed by the Corporation at a recent meeting to fill up the appointment departmentally if a suitable candidate was available.

M. 509/60

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H. Standard 5.2.41. 51

M. 509/60

Daniel Hamilton, the Pioneer  
operative workers.

**Rate-Payers' Committee:**—The under-mentioned gentlemen were elected as members of the General Committee of the Rate-payers Conference recently held in the Town Hall. President—Mr. S. N. Banerjee, Vice-Presidents—1. Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, 2. Mr. Phanindra Nath Brahma, 3. Mr. N. R. Sarker, 4. Mr. J. N. Basu. Secretaries—Dr. Bhupendra Nath Basu and Debendra Nath Mukherjee. Members—Messrs. J. C. Gupta, N. C. Sen, N. C. Chunder, P. Banerjee, Jogendra Nath Mandal, Srisht Chandra Chakravarty, Sachindra Narayan Sannyal, N. C. Chatterjee, H. P. Podder, Rajendra Narayan Banerjee, Prabhu Dayal Himatsinghka, Prof. Tinkari De, Mr. Madan Mohan Burman, Messrs. Hriday Krishna Ghosh, Tulsi Charan Roy, Satish Chandra Bose, Narendra Nath Dalal, Bijoy Kumar Banerjee, Prafulla Kumar Dutt, Bepin Behari Ganguli, Kishori Mohan Banerjee, Dr. Charu Chatterjee, Messrs. Makhan Banerjee, Sailendra Nath Dutt, Lakshmi Kanto Mullick, Biman Chandra Bose, K. C. Roychowdhury, Bhagat Singh, Rajani Mukherjee, Sachindra Prasad Bose, Kabiraj Jugal Kishore Sen, Dr. Sundari Mohan Das, Durga Charan Mitra, Kanai Lal Sarker, Begum Sakina, Nalin Chandra Paul, Benoyendra Prasad Bagchi, Major P. Burdhan, Kiron Sarker Roy, Rai Narendra Nath Chowdhury, with power to co-opt, the Presidents and Secretaries of Ward Associations—ex-officio.

B. Sen  
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*H. Standard 8/15.2.41.*

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*M. 509/40*

...of what has been  
said.

### **CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL AMENDMENT BILL**

#### **Bengalee Musalmans' Protest Meeting To-day**

A public meeting of the Bengalee Musalmans and Hindus of Bengal will be held on Sunday, the 16th February, 1941 at 4-30 p.m. at the Sradhananda Park to discuss the pernicious effect of the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Act of 1939 and its second Amendment Bill etc., now before the Bengal Assembly.

Leading Muslims and Hindus of Bengal will address the meeting. We undersigned most earnestly hope and pray that all Bengalee Muslim and Hindu public will muster in their thousands.

P. C. Roy (Dr. Kt. etc.).

S. C. Bose (M.L.A.)

J. C. Gupta (M.L.A.)

Hemoprova Mazumder, (M.L.A.)

Amar Bose

Hemanta Kumar Bose

Dr. Sundari Mohan Das

Hemendra Prosad Ghose, Editor,

the Dainik Basumati'

Makhanlal Sen

Syed Habibur Rahaman, President, All-Bengal Krishak Proja Samity and All-Bengal Unemployed Association.

A. K. M. Zakariah, Ex-Mayor, Corporation of Calcutta.

Syed Nauser Ali, Ex-Minister

Abul Monsur, M.L.A., Editor, The Daily Krishak.

Ahmad Ali, Editor, The Weekly 'Krishak'

Syed Jalaluddin Hashemi, M.L.A.

Shamsul Huq, Councillor, Calcutta Corporation.

Muzaffar Hussain Khan

Nurul Islam

M. A. Zaman, M.L.A.

Azizur Raharan, (Poet)

Musahibuddin Ahmed, B.L.

Moizada Sakina Begum, M.A., B.L. Councillor, Calcutta Corporation.



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Communal Award, the Bengal Ministry, and appealed to the people to unite and agitate against the Bill. Stress was laid on Hindu-Moslem unity which, they alleged, was spoiled by the "divide and rule" policy of the Government and their henchmen, the Ministers. A.M.A. Zaman (Ex-Councillor and M.L.C) also referred to the Secondary Education Bill which, if passed into Law, would affect the Muslims even more than the Hindus.

Debendra Mukherjee (Councillor) speaking on behalf of the Hindu Mahasava assured the Muslims of the wholehearted co-operation of the Hindus in the agitation. He also declared that the Calcutta Ratepayers' Association was preparing a formula for direct action by the people to paralyze the administration, if the Bill was passed into law. Copies of resolutions (which were neither moved nor passed) were circulated. They suggested the formation of a Ministry composed of Hindus and Muslims under the leadership of Mr. Fazlul Haque, condemned the Bill, recommended adult franchise of Bengali Moslems, authorised the formation of a Committee of Action to carry out the above suggestions and condemned the attitude of the Calcutta Tramway Co., and the action of the Calcutta Police authorities in connection with the recent Rajabazar riots.

A message of goodwill from Sir P.C. Roy who was to have presided but could not do so owing to ill health was read in the meeting.

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MISCELLANEOUS. 19/2/41.

M.R. 6887. 109. Calcutta Second Municipal Amendment Bill.  
19.2.41.

At a meeting (500) held on 16.2.41 held under the auspices of the All Bengal Krishak Proja Party and presided over by Moulana A.F.H. Mozaffar Hossain Khan (Secretary, All Bengal Moulavi Association) at Sradhananda Park the speakers\* condemned the proposed Bill, the

- \*  
1). Moulana A.F.H. Mozaffar Hossain Khan, (Secy., All Bengal Moulvi Assn)  
2). Krishna Chatterjee, (Asstt. Secy., B.I.C.C. suspended).  
3). Molvi Habibur Rahman, President, Nikhil Banga Krishak Ch Proja Samity),  
4). Mr. Bipin Behari Ganguly (E.D.) Councillor.  
5). Mr. A.M.A. Zaman, M.L.A., (B.P.C.C., Suspended), (Ex-Councillor),  
6). Mr. Debendra Nath Mukherjee, (B.P.H. Mahasava), (Councillor),  
7). Mr. Biman Ch. Bose, Advocate, (B.P. Hindu Mahasava),  
8). Mr. Subodh Kundu.



H. Standard D/16.3.41

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GOVT. REFUSE TO  
SANCTION

Mr. Mukerjee's Appointment  
As Corporation C. E. O.

It is understood that the Government of Bengal have intimated to the Corporation that they cannot sanction the appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee, as Chief Executive Officer for a further period of two years.

It will be recalled that Mr. Mukerjee was reappointed Chief Executive Officer for a further period of two years on the expiry of his present term on March 31, 1941, at a special meeting of the Corporation on February 28 last.



H. Standard 8/19.3.41

19/3/41 B. P. C. C. MEETING

## GOVT. ACTION

## CONDEMNED

REFUSAL TO SANCTION  
C.E.O.'S APPOINTMENT

### Board To Be Appointed To Deal With Education Bill

An emergent meeting of the Executive Council of the B. P. C. C. held at the B. P. C. C. office at 5 P.M. with Sj. Rajendra Chandra Deb in the chair to consider the letter sent by Sj. Sarat Ch. Bose, President, Congress Municipal Association regarding the appointment of the C. E. O. the following resolutions were adopted:

This meeting of the Executive Council of the B. P. C. C. empowers Sj. Sarat Ch. Bose to deal with the matter of appointment of the C. E. O. as he thinks best in consultation with the President of the B. P. C. C.

Without going into the merits and demerits in regard to the appointment of the C. E. O., this meeting unequivocally condemns as a matter of principle the action of the Government of Bengal in turning down the unanimous decision of the Corporation of Calcutta.

Sj. Rajendra Ch. Deb, President B. P. C. C. and Moulvi Ashrafuddin Ahmad Chowdhry be empowered to appoint a Board in consultation with Sj. Sarat Ch. Bose, Leader of the Congress Assembly Party to deal with the Secondary Education Bill under discussion in the Bengal Legislative Assembly and to take all necessary steps about the same.

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H. Standard Dec 3. 41.

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CORPORATION MEETING

**REAPPOINTMENT  
OF MR. MUKERJEA**

**CONSIDERATION OF  
GOVT.'S DISAPPROVAL**

**Requisition Notice Held  
Invalid By Mayor**

The requisition meeting of the Corporation of Calcutta convened on Wednesday to consider the question of disapproval by the Government of Bengal of the re-appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjea as the Chief Executive Officer fell through as the requisition notice was held to be invalid by the Mayor.

It was decided that a proper requisition on the subject should be sent and, the Mayor would convene a meeting of the Corporation on Saturday next at 4-30 P.M. on that requisition.

It might be recalled that Corporation on February 23, unanimously re-appointed Mr. J. C. Mukerjea as the Chief Executive Officer for a further period of two years with effect from the date of his present term of service (April 1, 1941) on his present pay and emoluments.

**MAYOR EXPLAINS**

The Mayor, Mr. Abdur Rahaman Siddiqi, who presided over the meeting, on a point of order being raised by a nominated Councillor, ruled that the requisition did not contain any notice of a substantive motion which was required by Rule 8 of the rules for conduct of the meetings of the Corporation. The Mayor, however, added that if the Corporation desired to discuss the matter referred to by the requisitionists it could do so just for clarification of ideas and understanding each other's point of view without coming to any definite decision. He pointed out that it was the parliamentary practice to discuss and consider matters over which the House need not come to a decision. He felt that Corporation might also adopt the same procedure as the requisition had been found to be invalid.

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee, Leader of the Hindu Mahashabha Group, said that they had already been treated by the Government of Bengal as a pack of school boys. He did not think that it would be useful for them simply to talk over the matter. He, therefore, suggested it would be better for them to have a proper requisition made on the subject and a day fixed for discussion of that requisition.

**ORDINARY MEETING HELD**

Immediately after the special meeting an ordinary meeting of the Corporation was also held on Wednesday. The Corporation authorised its collector to take action against men who have defaulted payment of municipal rates, irrespective of the fact that the party concerned was a councillor or an alderman or otherwise.



## Split In Bose Party

### C.E.O.'S APPOINTMENT

Messrs. I. B. Beed & Rajendra Dev Resign

The question of the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer promised to bring about a serious split in the Bose Party in the Corporation.

It is understood that Mr. I. B. Beed Secretary of the Bose Party in the Corporation has resigned. So also has Mr. Rajendra Dev, President of the suspended B. P. C. C.

#### THE WHIP'S STATEMENT

Mr. Jogesh Chandra Ghosh, whip of the Bose Party in the Corporation has issued the following statement:— "Even the camel's back breaks at last! The members of the Congress Municipal Association have gone through fire and even at times through dirt and mud in carrying out the so-called mandates of the bosses of the show, although the bosses themselves while exacting implicit obedience from us, have long ago thrown all sense of discipline to the winds.

"However, a very plain and unvarnished enumeration of facts and circumstances as set forth below, will show that the highest interests of the Province, the prestige of the Corporation, the honour of the Party, and our sense of self-respect as individual human beings must compel us to defy the arbitrary, utterly unconstitutional vagaries of the President of the Congress Municipal Association.

"The President has given the go-by to all propriety and decorum and has really abused his position and it is imperative on our part to assert ourselves and vindicate our own honour and the prestige of the Corporation.

#### PARALLEL TO GOVT. ANTICS

"The unprecedented and absolutely unconstitutional action of the Bengal Government in refusing to confirm the appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukherjee as Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation of Calcutta has given rise to a grave constitutional crisis in the Province. What has most pained and perplexed us, however, is the strange and unbecoming attitude of Mr. Sarat C. Bose in this matter — an attitude and a course of action running suspiciously parallel to Government's antics.

"In a very well attended meeting of the Congress Municipal Party, it was resolved by two-thirds majority that Mr. J. C. Mukherjee should be re-appointed as Chief Executive Officer for a further term.

#### THE FUTWA

"Knowing, as we all do, about the decade-old crusade against Mr. J. C. Mukherjee, we were not surprised when, failing to suppress personal rancour with due decorum, Mr. Sarat C. Bose next day sent in his resignation from the presidentship. Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherjee thereafter sent in a motion for reconsideration of the previous party decision and Mr. Bose apparently forgetting all about his letter of resignation drew up a series of articles of faith and issued 'ad interim' instructions to Congress members of the Service Committee No. 1 calling on them to vote against the rescission of the previous resolution appointing Dr. B. N. Day. Of all persons at the meeting of the said Committee, Mr. Satis Chandra Bose defied the said mandate and voted against it. Two party meetings followed and although a majority of the members abstained from attending, there was a good attendance in these two meetings but

"Up to this stage Mr. Sarat C. Bose seemed to have accepted, although with ill grace, the verdict of the majority of the party.

But the Government's refusal to confirm the unanimous decision of the Corporation poured fresh inspirations into Mr. Bose's dejected heart or was the flow of inspiration really the other about? Mr. Bose now sallied forth into the fray armed with a fragment of a half-suppressed resolution of the B. P. C. C. Why this matter was referred to the B. P. C. C. and who did it? Apparently Mr. Bose suspended the rules laid down in the pledges of Congress Councillors and dictatorially referred the matter to the B. P. C. C. He had no right to do it. The relevant portions of the pledge are reproduced below:—

#### PORTIONS OF PLEDGE

"In the matter of the election and appointment of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Alderman, the Chief and the Deputy Executive Officers and other principal officers of the Corporation, I shall abide by the decision of the Congress Corporation Party or of the B. P. C. C. when referred to or of the

(See page 8.)

## SPLIT IN BOSE PARTY

(Continued From Page 5)

body appointed or authorised by the B. P. C. C. to supervise the said election and appointment".

This clause relating to reference to the B. P. C. C. is as follows:—

"If one-fourth of the members of the said Congress Corporation Party expresses at a party meeting or writes to the B. P. C. C. stating that acute difference of opinion has arisen in any particular matter, such matter will be considered by the B. P. C. C. and the decision of the B. P. C. C. will be binding on the said party".

"In this case there was no acute difference of opinion; one-fourth of the members never referred to the B. P. C. C.; Mr. Sarat C. Bose who took upon himself to refer the matter to the B. P. C. C. is not even a member of the Congress Corporation Party. Hence this reference to the B. P. C. C. was illegal and ultra vires.

"Even the B. P. C. C. resolved that Government's action must be condemned. Messrs. Sarat C. Bose and Rajendra Dev were required to give effect to the same. Any modification of our previous decision will be a thorough justification of the Government's action.

"In spite of all these, instructions were issued over the joint signatures of Messrs. Sarat C. Bose and Rajendra Dev to the Congress members at the meeting of the Corporation on the 19th March, 1941 directing that any proposal to reappoint Mr. J. C. Mukherjee must be voted against.

#### DIFFICULT TO AVOID

"However reluctant we may be to drag in personalities in this constitutional controversy, it is difficult to avoid it altogether. In the pompous phraseology of Mr. Sarat Bose — 'there has been a progressive deterioration in the efficiency of the administration of the Corporation during the term of office of Mr. J. C. Mukherjee'.

"Only in February, 1940 two requisitions — one for the reappointment of Mr. J. C. Mukherjee as Chief Executive Officer for 3 years more, another for the grant of Rs 1 lakh to Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose for the Mahajati Sadan were made by the Councillors and sanctioned by the Corporation. Although Mr. Mukherjee had been the Chief Executive Officer for 16 years, his inefficiency was then not such in the eyes of Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose



given by Mr. J. C. Mukerjee to Sd. Subhas Chandra Bose and others that it would be his last term of office as Chief Executive Officer and he would not seek further extension or re-appointment.

"Speaking at the meeting of the Calcutta Corporation on May 14 of last year, Sd. Subhas Chandra Bose said that "when on a previous occasion he was re-appointed for a further term of 2 years 4 months, the understanding was that that was going to be the last extension. Even at that stage many of them were opposed to any extension at all, and it was as a result of the greatest common measure of agreement that they arrived at that they gave him extension for 2 years 4 months and the understanding was that that was going to be the last extension. But that understanding had been broken and he had been re-appointed for a further term of three years."

"Lastly, in the interests of the city I feel compelled also to declare—although I do with great regret—that there has been a progressive deterioration in the efficiency of the administration of the Corporation during the term of office of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee.

#### "THEY WILL DO WORSE"

"Thus, on every public ground, the Councillors who support Mr. Mukerjee are acting wrongly and without due regard for the interests of the rate-payers and of the city. If the members of the Congress Municipal Association support him they will do worse. If they disregard the mandate of the B.P.C.C. they will violate their election pledge which runs to the following effect, so far as this question is concerned:

"In the matter of the election and appointment of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Aldermen, the Chief and the Deputy Chief Executive Officers and other principal officers of the Corporation, I shall abide by the decision of the Congress Corporation Party or of the B.P.C.C. 'when referred' to or of the body appointed or authorised by the B.P.C.C. to supervise the said election and or appointment."

"The clause in the election pledge quoted above is very clear and definite and acting in terms thereof, in my capacity as President of the Congress Municipal Association, I referred the matter to the B.P.C.C. The next clause in the election pledge obviously refers to matters other than "the election and appointment of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Aldermen, the Chief and the Deputy Executive Officers and other principal officers of the Corporation" and does not apply to the present case. At the last meeting of the Congress Municipal Association held on Tuesday last, the 18th instant, at Sd. Sudhir Chandra Roy Chaudhuri's place, I informed the members that I had referred the matter to the B.P.C.C. in terms of the clause in the election pledge quoted above and no one suggested that I had not the power to do so or that the reference was invalid in any respect.

"For the present, I leave the matter to the conscience of the Councillors and Aldermen of the Corporation and to the opinion of the rate-payers of this city. I feel that consciousness of their duty to the city and to the Corporation and consciousness of the existence of the bar of public opinion to which every representative of the people must bow, will lead them yet to a right decision. It will be a severe disappointment to me if things turn out differently. But then I shall at least know where we stand and where our duty lies."

#### ANNEXURE I (COPY)

Mukerjee as Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation of Calcutta for a further term.

In view of the Government's said decision the question of appointment of the Chief Executive Officer will come up before the Corporation on Wednesday next. A meeting of the Congress Municipal Association will be held on Tuesday next to consider the question.

I believe you are aware that the majority decision of the Congress Municipal Association was in favour of the appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee. I entirely disagreed with that decision and I wrote a letter to the Secretaries of the Congress Municipal Association stating my views quite clearly. A copy of the said letter is enclosed herewith.

In view of the situation which has arisen I consider it necessary to refer the question of the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation to the Bengal Provincial Congress Committee and or its Executive Council for its decision. The relevant clause in last year's election pledge is set out below.

"In the matter of the election and appointment of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Aldermen, the Chief and the Deputy Chief Executive Officers and other principal Officers of the Corporation, I shall abide by the decision of the Congress Corporation Party or of the B.P.C.C. when referred to or of the body appointed or authorised by the B.P.C.C. to supervise the said election and or appointment."

My own view is (as it has always been) that Mr. J. C. Mukerjee should in no event be appointed for a further term for the reasons given by me in my said letter to the Secretaries of the Congress Municipal Association and other weighty reasons and that having regard to the present situation, the choice lies between Mr. Sallapati Chatterjee and Dr. B. N. Dey.

I shall feel thankful if you place the matter referred to in this letter before the Bengal Provincial Congress Committee or its Executive Council and let me have their decision by next Tuesday afternoon (the 18th instant).

Yours sincerely,

Sd. Sarat Chandra Bose  
President, Congress Municipal Association.

#### ANNEXURE III

##### BENGAL PROVINCIAL CONGRESS COMMITTEE

In exercise of the authority vested in us by the Executive Council of the B. P. C. C. we hereby give the following directions to all Councillors and Aldermen of the Corporation of Calcutta who were elected on the Congress ticket and or were supported by the Congress at the Calcutta Corporation Elections held last year and call upon them to carry out the said directions at this afternoon's meeting of the Corporation of Calcutta:—

(1) In case a resolution is brought forward at the said meeting for reaffirming or confirming the resolution of the Corporation appointing Mr. J. C. Mukerjee, Chief Executive Officer, for a further term, they will all vote against the said resolution.

2. In case a fresh resolution is brought forward at the said meeting for appointing Mr. J. C. Mukerjee Chief Executive Officer for a further term commencing from the 1st April 1941 they will all vote against the said resolution.

3. One member of the Congress Municipal Association elected and or supported as aforesaid will move a resolution for fixing the date for a meeting for appointing the Chief Executive Officer and one such member will second the said resolution. On the said resolution being put to the vote, they will all vote for the said resolution.

The Secretaries of the Congress Municipal Association will please circulate these directions among all members of the Association who were elected and or supported as aforesaid and will report to us that the above directions have been carried out by such members. If any such members do not carry out the above directions they will report to us the names of such members by to-morrow, the 20th instant.

19th March, 1941.

Sd. Rajendra Chandra Deb  
President, B.P.C.C.  
Sd. Sarat Chandra Bose  
Member, Executive Council,  
B.P.C.C. and President,  
Congress Municipal Assn.

#### ANNEXURE IV

Names of Members of the Calcutta Corporation who voted against Mr. J. C. Mukerjee on May 14, 1940.

1. Mr. B. G. Chatterjee
2. .. Hem Chandra Naskar
3. .. Subhas Chandra Bose
4. .. Tai Mohammad
5. .. Kshitish Chandra Chakravarty
6. .. Jogendra Nath Mandal
7. .. S. C. Ray Chaudhuri
8. .. Amulya Chandra Mitter
9. .. Anandilal Poddar
10. .. Jagannath Kolay
11. .. I. B. Beed
12. .. Notobor Chandra Dutta
13. .. Profulla Kumar Dutt
14. .. Dr. Subodh K. Sarkar
15. .. Naresh Nath Mookerjee
16. .. Bilov Kumar Banerjee



The Secretaries,  
Congress Municipal Association,  
Calcutta.

Dear friends,

At our party meeting held last night some members stated they had conscientious objections to vote in favour of the appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee as Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation of Calcutta and asked for directions as to what they should do in the circumstances. After some discussion it was left to me to give the directions asked for.

I have already informed our party that I entirely disagreed with its majority decision in favour of the appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee. I have made no secret of my considered opinion that in arriving at that decision, our party stultified itself. I hold that opinion for the following amongst other reasons:—

(1) Sri Subhas Chandra Bose who conducted the last election campaign last year made it quite clear in his election speeches in the different wards of this city that the Congress party was definitely against the appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee for a further term and his lead in that matter was followed by members of the Congress Corporation Election Board and many of the Congress candidates during the election campaign.

(2) Last year the present Corporation set aside the resolution passed by the previous Corporation appointing Mr. J. C. Mukerjee for a further term commencing from the 1st April 1941 and Congress Councillors voted in favour of setting it aside.

(3) The resolution passed by the Corporation in 1938 appointing Mr. J. C. Mukerjee for a further term ending with the 31st March 1941 was on the basis of a definite assurance given by Mr. J. C. Mukerjee to Sri Subhas Chandra Bose and others that it would be his last term of office as Chief Executive Officer and he would not seek further extension or re-appointment.

(4) There has been progressive deterioration in the efficiency of the administration of the Corporation during the term of office of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee.

I can give many other weighty reasons in support of my opinion but I shall refrain from doing so at this stage. If and when it becomes necessary for me to do so, I shall place them fully before the rate-payers and public of Calcutta.

I fully appreciate the point of view of members of our party who have stated that they have conscientious objections to vote for Mr. J. C. Mukerjee. In the circumstances, I feel that it would be wrong to force them to vote against their conscience. I therefore permit them to abstain from voting in favour of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee. Please circulate this among the members of our party.

Yours sincerely,  
Sd. Sarat Chandra Bose  
President, Congress Municipal  
Association.

#### ANNEXURE II

(COPY)

1, Woodburn Park,  
Calcutta,  
16th March, 1941.

The President,  
Bengal Provincial Congress Committee,  
Calcutta.

Dear friend,

You are no doubt aware that the Government of Bengal have declined to approve of the appointment of Mr. J. C.

17. Satish Chandra Bose
18. Debabrata Mookerjee
19. Krishna Ch. Ghose
20. A. S. Nasker
21. Khan Sahib Moulvi Md. Solaiman
22. Abdur Rezak
23. Mohamad Rafique
24. Dr. Syed Zafar Ahmed
25. Dr. A. Ahsan
26. Moulvi Nuruddin Ahmed
27. Hamoodur Rahman
28. M. A. H. Isphani
29. S. Bardudduza
30. M. A. Jubbar
31. Haji Md. Yusuf
32. Mohammed Israil
33. Md. Mohsin Khan
34. Mohammed Jaili
35. Mahmud Ghuznavi
36. S. A. Habib
37. Abdul Matin
38. L. P. Atkinson
39. S. C. Varma
40. Ziauddin Ahmed
41. B. N. Roy Chowdhury
42. Debi Prasanna Ghosh
43. Abdus Sattar
44. Pullin Behary Mullick
45. Anukul Chandra Das
46. Mrs. K. D'Rosario



2.3.41.

# REAPPOINTMENT OF MR. MUKERJEA

## Sj. Sarat Bose's Pointer To Councillors

### GOING AGAINST INTERESTS OF CITY & CORPORATION

Pointing out that Mr. Mukerjea has been in office for 17 years and 4 months—and he is proposed to be given an extension of office at the age of 60 years or over, Sj. Bose says that the resolution passed by the Corporation in 1938 appointing Mr. J. C. Mukerjea for a further term ending with the 31st March, 1941, was on the basis of a definite assurance given by Mr. J. C. Mukerjea to Sj. Subhas Chandra Bose and others that it would be his last term of office as Chief Executive Officer and he would not seek further extension or re-appointment.

On every public ground, the Councillors who support Mr. Mukerjea are acting wrongly and without due regard for the interests of the rate-payers and of the city. If the members of the Congress Municipal Association support him they will do worse. If they disregard the mandate of the B. P. C. C. they will violate their election pledge," says Sj. Sarat Chandra Bose in the course of a statement explaining the reasons why he opposes re-appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjea as Chief Executive Officer of Corporation.

Following is the text of Sj. Sarat Chandra Bose's statement:—

"So much misunderstanding and confusion of ideas are being sedulously promoted in regard to the disagreement that has arisen between the Government of Bengal and the Calcutta Corporation on the question of appointing Mr. J. C. Mukerjea, Chief Executive Officer for a further term, that I consider it my duty to place the matter before the rate-payers and other citizens of Calcutta for their judgment and verdict.

"I have regretfully to state that on this question there has also been a complete divergence of opinion between a majority of the members of the Congress Municipal Association on the one hand and myself and the President of the B. P. C. C. on the other. I make no secret of the fact that I entirely disapprove of the decision to re-appoint Mr. J. C. Mukerjea as Chief Executive Officer on the weightiest possible public grounds. And so did Sj. Subhas Chandra Bose repeatedly when he was here. In fact, I have, in my capacity as President of the Association, disassociated myself from the majority decision, pointing out the reasons for my being opposed to the re-appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjea and I am glad to be able to say that the President of the B. P. C. C. is in whole-hearted agreement with me. Furthermore, having been authorized by the Executive Council of the B. P. C. C. to issue a mandate on the question, the President of the B. P. C. C. and I have jointly issued a mandate to the Congress Municipal Association directing its members to oppose the re-appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjea. Copy of the said mandate as also copies of the letters that I addressed to the Secretaries of the Congress Municipal Association and to the President, B. P. C. C., dated the 28th February and 16th March, 1941, respectively, are published as annexures to this statement. I addressed these letters in my capacity as President of the Congress Municipal Association, as the resignation I had tendered on the 21st

in a city with a preponderant Hindu population and where the Hindus contributed an overwhelming share in rates and taxes as in Calcutta, the Chief Executive Officer should be a Hindu of outstanding ability and experience, and he was in agreement with my views. But the only Hindu available is not Mr. J. C. Mukerjea. To push the claims of Mr. J. C. Mukerjea on the Hindu issue is a false cry.

"What are the real issues then? They are clear-cut enough. On one side is the desire to confer a personal favour on Mr. J. C. Mukerjea. He is to be given an extension of office at the age of about 60 years or over, after he has been in office for 17 years and 4 months. The ground for meting out such exceptionally generous treatment to Mr. Mukerjea may be twofold: first, that there is in the Calcutta Corporation, in Bengal, perhaps in the whole of India such a dearth of ability that no other individual can be expected to step worthily into Mr. Mukerjea's shoes; or alternatively, that Mr. Mukerjea has rendered such signal service to the city that he deserves to be retained as the Chief Executive Officer Emeritus, in the full enjoyment of his emoluments powers and privileges even when he has passed the age of active exertion. I feel the citizens will have no hesitation in forming a definite opinion about both these grounds.

#### INTERESTS OF CITY

"Now, as to the issues on the other side of the balance—the interests of the city, of the Corporation, of efficient and honest administration, I shall set them forth *seriatim*.

"To begin with, the presence of one single individual at the highest post of a corporate body for nearly two decades is utterly without parallel or precedent in public administration and is open to the most serious objections. At best, it would decisively bar the way to new blood and new ability and allow the highest executive direction of the Corporation to become nerveless and senile; in other circumstances it might allow one individual to

could-



of the Association had not been accepted and prominent members of the Association including the Secretaries had earnestly requested me not to press my resignation at that stage.

#### ONLY ONE ISSUE

"I would request the rate-payers and citizens of Calcutta to remember that there is only one issue before them and the Calcutta Corporation, viz. the desirability of giving Mr. J. C. Mukerjee a further extension after he has enjoyed a continued spell of office for 17 years and 4 months and passed the age at which all public officials are due for superannuation. To drag into it any other issue such as the Government's interference with the Calcutta Corporation's decisions is an irrelevance. If we think Mr. Mukerjee deserves a further extension after 17 years of service and after passing the age for superannuation then, clearly, any kind of interference is unjustified, whether it be the Government's or anybody else's. If on the other hand, we are convinced that Mr. Mukerjee's re-appointment is not justified on the merits of the proposal and in the interests of the citizens of Calcutta, then it is the duty of every public man and organization to protest against such re-appointment.

"Judgment on the Government's action can never be divorced from the merits of the case. I, for my part, have no hesitation in saying that, so far as their action in disapproving of this re-appointment is concerned, I feel compelled to support the attitude of the Bengal Government. The mere fact that I, who have been the most relentless and consistent critic of the present provincial Government, have felt compelled to support them in this matter is enough proof of the serious nature of the public issues at stake.

#### NO COMMUNAL ISSUE

"Nor would it do to drag into this matter the Hindu-Muslim question in the public services. I made it perfectly clear in my conversations in the past with one of the most prominent members of the Muslim League Party in the Corporation that

lish a prescriptive right on the Corporation and manipulate its machinery in his own interest by the exercise of injudicious influence. It is highly desirable that new individuals should come to the helm at reasonable intervals. There is not a single principle of public administration which can be cited against this salutary rule. It is a safeguard against favouritism, ineptitude and perhaps a vicious chain of unhealthy vested interests.

"Secondly, the Congress Municipal Association would be completely stultifying itself by going back on the decision which it arrived at in May last year. On May 14, 1940, the Corporation set aside a resolution rushed through the previous Corporation on the 8th March, 1940, on the eve of the general election and after violating the Rules of business of the Corporation, giving Mr. Mukerjee a further extension from April 1, 1941.

"Nothing has occurred between that date and now which could justify a reversal of that decision, and extenuate a 'volte face' of those members of the Congress Municipal Association who voted against Mr. Mukerjee on the 14th May, 1940, but voted for him on the 28th February, 1941. The names of the forty-six members who voted against Mr. Mukerjee on the 14th May, 1940, are published as an annexure to this statement.

#### THE ELECTION PLEDGE

"Thirdly, S. Subhas Chandra Bose who conducted the last election campaign last year made it quite clear in his election speeches in the different wards of this city that the Congress Party was definitely against the appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee for a further term and his lead in that matter was followed by members of the Congress Corporation Election Board and many of the Congress Candidates during the election campaign. Thus the re-appointment of Mr. Mukerjee will be something in the nature of the violation of an election pledge.

"Fourthly, I would add that the resolution passed by the Corporation in 1938 appointing Mr. J. C. Mukerjee for a further term ending with the 31st March, 1941, was on the basis of a definite assurance



merit of the case. They would bring disgrace upon them if they did not re-affirm the resolution re-appointing Mr. Mukerjee.

Mr. B. N. Roy Choudhury moved an amendment which sought to substitute the first part of the motion by the following: "This Corporation feels it its duty to request the Government of Bengal to revise their decision refusing approval to the re-appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee as the Chief Executive Officer in terms of the resolution of the Corporation dated 28th February, 1941, in view of the almost unanimous opinion of the Councillors and Aldermen in favour of it."

Mr. Sushil Sen (Independent) in supporting the motion said that consistently with what they had done there was no other way out of the situation other than reaffirming the resolution passed by the Corporation. They regretted the action of the Government in refusing sanction to the re-appointment of Mr. Mukerjee. Their regret was all the greater because Government had assigned no reason for their refusal to sanction the reappointment. It was quite correct that under the Municipal Act Government was not bound to give any reason. But common courtesy demanded that at least some indication should be given by Government in turning down an almost unanimous verdict of the House so that they might know what was the mind of the Government.

Mr. Profulla Kumar Dutt (Congress) supported the motion moved by Mr. Chatterjee.

In opposing the motion Mr. Naresh Nath Mukerjee (Congress) said that they had arrived at such a stage when they should consider seriously what they were going to do. Government had turned down their recommendation. He wished to make it clear that he had no dual allegiance to the Government and to the Corporation. His allegiance was only to this Corporation. The situation demanded that they should discuss this matter in an atmosphere free from personal consideration, free from all political considerations keeping in view only the interest of the Corporation. He wished to remind Mr. Chatterjee of that Black Bill which he along with them had condemned in no uncertain term both in this House and outside. He wished to remind the House that one of the provisions of that Black Bill was that Government should appoint the Chief Executive Officer and another provision was to the effect that all appointments in the Corporation should be made by a Service Commission to be appointed by the Government. The Bill was framed not in a spirit of confidence in them. Government stated clearly on the floor of the Assembly that they did not make fair appointments in the Corporation. Mr. Chatterjee and all of them had tried to defend the Corporation by stating that the charge of unfair appointments in the Corporation was absolutely baseless. What justification they had got in re-appointing Mr. Mukerjee. Did they remember the pledges they gave to the rate-payers in the last election that they would purge the Corporation of the corruptions in the matter of appointments? When they entered the Corporation after the last elections one of their first acts was to cancel the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer. Then they cancelled all the increments, pensions in the grades and extensions in the services of the employees of the Corporation granted by the previous Corporation. If they were to appoint Mr. J. C. Mukerjee should restore the grades and the grades of the

Mr. Mukerjee appealed to the members of the Muslim League Party not to forget their election pledges. Let not the members of the Muslim League forget that they co-operated with Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose in order to usher in a new era in the Corporation. Where Mr. Ispahani was leading them now? Mr. Mukerjee also appealed to the European Group and asked them to remember what their worthy predecessor had done in 1938. The worthy leader of the European Group at that time was definitely against giving any extension, even one year's extension to Mr. J. C. Mukerjee. He could not understand how the European Group could now support his re-appointment.

Mr. Mukerjee once again appealed to Mr. N. C. Chatterjee remember the interest of his community and the rate-payers. Where was their prestige when they tried to undo a decision previously taken by them? Mr. Chatterjee should look at the question from one point of view only, namely, the interest of the rate-payers. Mr. Mukerjee condemned the motion and said that they would stultify themselves if they passed the motion.

Mr. F. G. Watson, Leader of the European Group, said that they did not oppose the motion. They thought that the proposal was made in a spirit of compromise and it seemed to them that a compromise was admissible. Government had turned down the decision of the Corporation without assigning any reason. But it did not require great imagination to find out the reason.

There was, as they knew, an impending legislation with regard to the Corporation. In the circumstances, they thought that the period of the re-appointment of Mr. Mukerjee should be one year instead of two as suggested in the motion.

Mr. Watson moved an amendment suggesting that the period of re-appointment of Mr. Mukerjee should be one year.

Mr. Ispahani informed the House they wanted the re-appointment of Mr. Mukerjee for one year and Mr. N. C. Chatterjee for three years and it was with greatest difficulty that they both came to compromise. Having agreed to that compromise he and his party this time could not go back upon their decision. However, distasteful and shameful it might be to Mr. Mukerjee.

Replying to the debate Mr. N. C. Chatterjee said that he wrote to Mr. J. C. Mukerjee to have certain matters cleared. Mr. Mukerjee had in reply written to him a letter which he would like to read out to the House. In the letter which Mr. Chatterjee read, Mr. J. C. Mukerjee had stated that he never gave any assurance to Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose in 1938 when his term of office was extended to the effect that that would be his last term of office and that he would not seek for any other term of office. It was only incorrect to say that Mr. Mukerjee met Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose in 1938 to discuss this matter. Only last year Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose had discussed in the presence of an influential Councillor when the question of grant of Mahajati Sadan was discussed and incidentally the question of his re-appointment was raised. Mr. Mukerjee in that letter had informed Mr. Chatterjee that he was at present fifty-eight and not sixty years of age.

The Mayor (Mr. A. R. Siddiqi) pointed out that there was a little window open to the letter of the Government of Bengal in

In the circumstances, re-appointment of Mr. Mukerjee for a further period of two years was not likely to be accepted by the Government. Further, the Corporation had also got to take into consideration the situation that might arise if the Government rejected their resolution re-affirming their re-appointment of Mr. Mukerjee.

The Mayor added that the catastrophe had arisen in a funny way. Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose had definitely told him that personally he would not support the re-appointment of Mr. Mukerjee. Whether there was a gentleman's agreement he did not know. It was surprising to see that Mr. Bose's followers had put the whole House in a position where they had stultified themselves. Muslim League had also stultified itself and finally the decision they were going to take were likely to create a situation which might bring the Corporation into greater trouble. If they were to maintain the right of the Corporation they might think twice over the situation. If he could look into the hearts of the majority he felt that they would be voting this resolution not from their convictions. There was no doubt that the Corporation had gone down and down during all these years. And one of the reasons for that was the manner in which the Chief Executive Officer utilised the members of the Corporation.

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee intervening pointed out that it was absolutely unfair on the part of the Mayor to cast aspersions on the officers of the Corporation. If the Mayor did so they should be given an opportunity to reply to it.

The Mayor said that he was not casting any aspersion to any body. He was only pointing out to the Corporation the difficulties that might arise.

Mr. Watson's amendment suggesting reappointment of Mr. Mukerjee for a period of one year was rejected by the House.

The House accepted the amendment of Mr. B. N. Roy Chowdhury. The original motion as amended was accepted by the House, only nine members recording their note of dissent.

#### THOSE WHO FLOUTED PARTY WHIP

The following Councillors belonging to the Congress Municipal Association went against the joint direction of the President of the Association (Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose) and the President of the B. P. C. C. (Mr. Rajendra Chandra Dev) in not opposing the resolution reaffirming the re-appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee, nor did they record their note of dissent against the adoption of the resolution: Mr. Kshitish Chandra Chakravarty (Ward No. 1), Mr. H. S. Paul (Ward No. 2), Mr. Sudhir Chandra Roy Chowdhury (Ward No. 3), Mr. Sudhir Kumar Chatterjee (Ward No. 6), Mr. Anand Lal Poddar (Ward No. 8), Mr. Jagannath Koley (Ward No. 9).

Mr. Prafulla Kumar Dutt (Ward No. 18), Mr. Krishna Chandra Ghose (Ward No. 25), Mr. A. S. Naskar (Ward No. 28), Mr. Narendra Nath Dalal (Ward No. 29), Mr. Fakir Chandra Ghose (Ward No. 31), Mr. Netai Chandra Paul (Ward No. 31), and Dr. Subodh K. Sarkar (Ward No. 19).

#### THE DISSENTERS

Those Councillors who recorded their dissent were: Mr. P. N. Brahma, Deputy Mayor (Ward No. 24), Mr. Satish Chandra Bose (Ward No. 22), Mr. Debabrata Mukherjee (Ward No. 23), Mr. Bejoy Kumar Banerjee (Ward No. 21), Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherjee (Ward No. 20), Mr. Indra Bhushan Beed (Ward No. 10), Mr. Gukuldas Mohita (Ward No. 7), Mr. Aniya Chandra Mitra (Ward No. 4), and Mr. Pravanshu Kumar Sett (Ward No. 5).



# MR. J. C. MOOKERJEA'S RE-APPOINTMENT

## Corporation Re-affirms Its Previous Resolution

### GOVT. URGED TO REVISE FORMER ORDER

#### Heated Discussions : Congress Councillors Go Against Direction

**T**HE situation that had arisen out of the refusal of the Government of Bengal to sanction the re-appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjea as the Chief Executive Officer for a further period of two years with effect from April 1, 1941, was the subject-matter of heated discussions at a requisition meeting of the Corporation of Calcutta on Saturday.

#### APPEAL TO GOVERNMENT

The Corporation re-affirmed its previous resolution re-appointing Mr. Mukerjea and requested the Government of Bengal to revise their decision refusing approval to the re-appointment which the Corporation made on February 28 practically unanimously.

#### INTERIM AGREEMENT

The Corporation also decided that Mr. Mukerjea should continue in office in the event of the approval of the Government to the resolution re-affirming his re-appointment not reaching the Corporation on or before the 31st of March, 1941, when the term of the office of Mr. Mukerjea expires.

**Only nine members recorded their note of dissent with regard to the motion re-affirming the re-appointment of Mr. Mukerjea.**

The first part of the motion which was moved by Mr. N. C. Chatterjee wanted to record the protest of the Corporation against the action of the Government refusing to approve the re-appointment of Mr. Mukerjea.

The House, however, accepted by a majority an amendment moved by Mr. B. N. Roy Chowdhury with regard to the first part of the motion. The first part of the motion as amended requested the Government to revise its decision refusing sanction to the re-appointment.

Mr. Roy Chowdhury's amendment was supported by the Muslim League members and several Congress councillors.

Mr. F. G. Watson of the European Group moved an amendment suggesting re-appointment of Mr. Mukerjea for a period of one year. The House rejected the amendment, only the European members supporting it.

When the House met Mr. N. C. Chatterjee moved the following resolution:

1. "That the Corporation of Calcutta records its protest against the action of the Government of Bengal refusing to approve the re-appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjea as the Chief Executive Officer in terms of the resolution of the Corporation dated the 28th February, 1941, without assigning any reasons for such refusal."

2. "That this Corporation re-affirms the resolution passed by the Corporation on the 28th February, 1941, re-appointing Mr. J. C. Mukerjea as the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation, for a further period of 2 years from 1st April, 1941, on his present pay and emoluments, and this Corporation directs that this Resolution be forwarded forthwith to the Government of Bengal, for

Mukherjea. But the resolution of the Corporation re-appointing Mr. Mukerjea was no longer there as the Government of Bengal had turned down that resolution by refusing to sanction the re-appointment. In the circumstances, there ought to have been a substantive motion appointing Mr. Mukerjea for a further period of say, two or three years instead of a motion re-affirming the previous resolution re-appointing Mr. Mukerjea. The second point was that the third part of the motion before them was very vague because it did not say definitely for what period Mr. Mukerjea would continue in office in the event of the approval of the Government to the re-appointment not reaching the Corporation on or before the 31st of March, 1941.

The Mayor (Mr. A. R. Siddiqi) said that the meeting in which they had met was a requisition meeting to re-affirm the decision they had already taken. Therefore, he considered that the point of order raised by Mr. Bose that there should be a substantive motion before the House was not valid. As regards the point raised by Mr. Bose that the third part of the resolution was vague the Mayor pointed out that Mr. Mukerjea would continue in office in terms of the resolution adopted by the Corporation on February 28 re-appointing Mr. Mukerjea for a further period of two years. Therefore, the third part of the resolution was clear. The Mayor ruled out the point of order raised by Mr. Bose.

In moving the resolution Mr. N. C. Chatterjee said that it was their duty as representatives of the rate-payers and of a self-respecting institution to take a dignified stand and to tell the Government of Bengal that the Corporation had not been fairly

down the unanimous verdict of the House. Nothing had been told by the Government of Bengal. They maintained that that was not the way in which a great Corporation like the Corporation of Calcutta should be treated. No institution could subsist without a mutual understanding between the Government and itself. They wanted that mutual understanding should be established. They were sure that if they all re-affirmed the resolution which they had previously passed re-appointing Mr. Mukerjea Government of Bengal would re-consider the matter, and they trusted that the Government would think of approving the appointment if they re-affirmed it. They wanted the Government not to behave like an immutable, taciturn Egyptian Sphinx. Was the objection of the Government of Bengal to the man, Mr. J. C. Mukerjea or to the terms of his appointment or to both or it may be due to some other reason not known to them? Under the Act the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer was a mandatory obligation on them. How were they to discharge their obligation unless they knew why the Government disapproved the appointment? Mr. Chatterjee said that the dignity and honour of the Corporation was at stake. They should sink their party differences and political considerations and uphold the dignity and honour of the Corporation.

In opposing the motion Mr. Satish Chandra Bose referred to the fiery eloquence of Mr. Chatterjee and remarked "we are gradually becoming accustomed to fire-works."

Turning to the motion before the House Mr. Bose said that before they condemned the action of the Government it was proper for them to consider what they did with regard to the appointment of Mr. Mukerjea in 1938 when they extended the terms of Mr. J. C. Mukerjea for a period of two years and four months. At that time gentleman's agreement was entered into & Mr. J. C. Mukerjea gave them the assurance that at the end of the period of two years and four months he would not ask for any further term of office. Early in 1940 on the eve of the last Corporation election, the Corporation by a rash motion gave a term of three years to Mr. Mukerjea. Soon after that on the 4th May, 1940, the Corporation by an overwhelming majority cancelled the term of three years. What had happened, Mr. Bose wanted to know, between the 14th of May, 1940 and the 28th of February, 1941, that the majority opinion deliberately held by the Corporation should have undergone such a change? Before condemning the Government they had to condemn themselves. The self-spect of the Corporation was in their hands. If this body could not command its self-respect no exalted body would do it. Mr. J. C. Mukerjea had a run of seventeen years and four months' service. One could have expected that after this long period of service Mr. Mukerjea would have left the Corporation "Now, let me part in peace. If you bless my hour, well and good." But that was not to be. Instead they found themselves for another term of office, directly or indirectly raising acrimonious controversies over his appointment.

This institution was the first of its kind to enjoy the blessings of self-government. If properly run and ministered, it would have been the pride and glory of Bengal and would have been an object lesson of self-governing institution in the whole of India. But under the tutelage of Mr. J. C. Mukerjea this institution had descended on the rock of inefficiency and intrigue. And to the rate-payers and the general public the Corporation had become a by-word of scorn. This Corporation would be disgracing itself if it passed the resolution before the House in the face of the facts.



approval under the proviso to Section  
(1) of the Calcutta Municipal

"That in the event of the approval of the Government of Bengal not reaching the Corporation on or before the 31st March, 1941, Mr. J. C. Mukerjee do continue as the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation on his present pay and emoluments in terms of the said resolution of the Corporation dated the 28th February, 1941."

Mr. Bidhubhusan Sarkar (Hindu Mahasabha) seconded the motion.

After the motion was moved, Mr. Satish Ch. Bose (Congress) rose on a point of order. Mr. Bose pointed out that the second part of the motion affirmed the resolution of the Corporation re-appointing Mr. J. C.

pointed out that a statutory responsibility, a right and a duty had been entrusted upon them by Section 51 (1) of the Calcutta Municipal Act. Under the Act they were bound to appoint a proper person as the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation and on February 28 the Corporation practically unanimously carried a resolution re-appointing Mr. J. C. Mukerjee as the Chief Executive Officer for a further period of two years. They maintained that this deliberate verdict of the City Corporation should not be brushed aside by the Government of Bengal without giving any cogent reason. The Government of Bengal had assigned no reason whatsoever in turning

(Continued On Page 10)



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**PRIMARY EDUCATION**

**Calcutta Corporation's New Scheme**

The question of shaping and modelling the basis of primary education in the city of Calcutta along the lines of County Council Schools of London is now engaging the attention, the "United Press" understands, of the Corporation of Calcutta.

A joint-meeting of the Estates and General Purposes and Primary Education Committees of the Corporation will be held on Thursday, the 27th March, when the following matter will come up for the consideration of the committees:—

That schools receiving benefit of Corporation grants should be urged and encouraged to induce Industrial education within their scope of instruction and Industrial grants should be distributed as widely and as evenly as possible according to the eligibility of respective claims.

That while recommending grants to Industrial schools and Industrial department of Secondary schools the actual expenditure that a school has incurred in the preceding year for its Industrial education should be adopted as the basis and in no circumstances should the grant recommended exceed half the amount as spent and in case of secondary schools the upper limit should further be defined by one sixth of the total expenditure of the whole school including that of its Industrial Department.

It is further understood that the Education Officer will also submit a report in this connection.

As regards grants to Industrial and Technical School the Corporation have not yet laid down definite rules.

—U. P.

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**Mr. J. C. Mookerjee's  
Reappointment**

**GOVT. DECISION**

**Unable To Accede To  
Corporation Request**

The 'Associated Press' understands that the Government of Bengal have decided to inform the Calcutta Corporation that they are unable to accede to the latter's request, for a second time, to approve the appointment of Mr. J. C. Mookerjee as the Chief Executive Officer for a further term of two years.

The Government are also going to inform the Corporation that Mr. Mookerjee cannot function as the Chief Executive Officer after the 31st March, 1941 without the sanction of the Government under the law.

The Corporation, it will be recalled, at a special meeting on March 22 adopted a resolution requesting the Government of Bengal to revise their decision refusing to give their approval to the appointment of Mr. Mookerjee, the present incumbent, as the Chief Executive Officer for a further term of two years on the expiry of his present term of office on March 31. It further decided that in the event of the Government's approval not reaching the Corporation before March 31 Mr. Mookerjee was to continue in office as the Chief Executive Officer.

**HINDU COUNCILLORS' MEETING**

An extremely difficult situation has been created by the Bengal Ministry vetoing the appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee, Chief Executive Officer, in spite of the unanimous decision of the Corporation.

This is calculated to create a deadlock in the working of the City Corporation.

For the sake of maintaining the civic integrity of the city, and for counter-acting the mischievous move of the Communalists in power to impose their nominee on the civic administration of Calcutta, it is imperative that all the Hindu councillors of the Corporation should unite and decide on the course of action to be taken in this emergency.

All Hindu councillors are requested to attend the meeting which will be held on Sunday, the 30th inst., at 6-30 P.M., at No. 471, Theatre Road to discuss the present situation.

We trust all Hindu members of the Corporation will kindly make it convenient to attend the meeting.

(Sd.) N. C. Chatterjee,

( „ ) Sudhir Ch. Ray Chaudhuri.

**CORPORATION EMPLOYEES**

**LIST DEMANDED BY GOVT.  
OF BENGAL**

The Government of Bengal have, it is learnt, addressed a communication to the Calcutta Corporation requesting it to supply them with a complete list of technical and non-technical hands in its employ in different departments.

M. 509/60



A. B. Patra 3.3.41

67.

MRITA BAZAR PATRI

## Appointment Of C. E. O.

CORPN. IMPASSE

### Govt.'s Final Decision To Be Communicated To-day

The situation which has arisen in connection with the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer of the Calcutta Corporation was, it is understood, considered at a meeting of the Bengal Cabinet on Sunday. It is further understood that final decision of the Government will be communicated on Monday.

If the Government refuse to sanction the appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukherjea, which is the decision of the Corporation, an impasse will arise. As from the first of April, 1941, there will be no Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation.

#### MAYOR'S STATEMENT

The Mayor of Calcutta, Mr. A. R. Siddique, has issued the following statement in connection with the situation that has arisen.

"My attention has been drawn to a statement signed jointly by Mr. N. C. Chatterjee and Mr. Sudhir Chandra Roy Chowdhury. As Mayor of Calcutta, it is my duty to inform the citizens and ratepayers that the effort to create panic in their minds does not do credit to the signatories of the notice.

"It should be remembered that on the question of the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer there is and there has not been any difference of opinion among Hindu and Muslim Aldermen and Councillors.

"The suggestion that communalism has been imported into this question is totally incorrect. It is also a fact that the persons whose names were proposed in connection with the appointment were all Hindus. There is no move on the part of any group whatsoever, communalist or otherwise, to push in the claims of its own nominee.

"I appeal to the citizens of Calcutta to await with patience the solution of the unfortunate impasse that has arisen. I can assure them that every effort will be made to find a way out in keeping with the prestige and dignity of the Corporation and the Government."

M. 509/60



Ananda Bazar ১.৪.৪১

M. 509/40  
68

### ৩৭৭ পত্রী করদাতা সমিতি

গত ৩০শে মার্চ, রবিবার সকাল ৯  
ঘটিকায় ২৫নং গ্রে 'বলদেব মন্দিরে' ৩নং  
পত্রীর করদাতা ও অধিবাসীদের একটি  
সাধারণ সভার মিম্নলিখিত ভূমিহীনদেরকে  
লইয়া "৩নং পত্রী করদাতা সমিতি" গঠিত  
হইয়াছে। শ্রীযুক্ত সৌরীশচন্দ্র বসুদেবপাধ্যায়  
সভাপতির আসন গ্রহণ করিয়াছিলেন। প্রায়  
শতাধিক লোকের সমাবেশ হইয়াছিল।  
সভাপতি—ডাঃ এ. এন. মুখার্জী; সহঃ সভাপতি—  
হরিন্দাস সাহা, প্রকাশচন্দ্র বসু ও হরপ্রসাদ দে;  
সম্পাদক—শ্রীমৎ কুমার ঘোষাল; সহঃ সম্পাদক—  
শ্রীসত্যকিউ পাল ও মহেন্দ্রনাথ ভট্টাচার্য;  
কোষাধ্যক্ষ—শ্রীপূর্ণচন্দ্র শীল; সদস্যগণ—  
শ্রীসুধীরকুমার রায় চৌধুরী, যোগেন্দ্রনাথ মন্ডল,  
নরেন্দ্রনাথ চৌধুরী, প্রভাসচন্দ্র চট্টোপাধ্যায়,  
শশিকুমার সেনগুপ্ত, আশুতোষ লাহিড়ী,  
অনাথনাথ রায়, নরেন্দ্রনাথ শেঠ, ভূপেন্দ্রনাথ বসু  
প্রভৃতি।

BK Sen Gupta  
3/4/41



H. Standard 8/6.4.41

M. 509/40 69

**WATER-SUPPLY IN BUSTEES**

**Harijan Utthan Samity  
Secretary's Suggestions**

That the present opportunity of sinking tube-wells in different parts of the city under the scheme which the Corporation of Calcutta have formulated at the instance of the Government of Bengal for providing 2,500 tube-wells in the city, should be utilised for providing adequate water supply in the bustee localities inhabited by Harijans and other poorer classes, is suggested by Mr. S. R. Dhadda, Honorary Secretary of the Harijan Utthan Samity in the course of a communication addressed to the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation of Calcutta.



A.B. Patra 8/4/41

M. S. G. / W

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## The Corporation Affairs

### FRESH DEVELOPMENTS

#### The Legality Of Payment For Employees

Although the problem arising out of Government's refusal to approve the reappointment of Mr. J. C. Mookerjee as the Chief Executive Officer of the Calcutta Corporation had been settled at a meeting of the Councillors on March 31 when they decided that Mr. J. C. Mookerjee should continue as the Chief Executive Officer, pending the decision of the matter by a formal meeting in the new financial year, fresh developments, however, arose later when the validity of this resolution of the Corporation was challenged. One of the main problems facing the Corporation authorities for the last few days was as to whether in the present circumstances, they could legally pay their employees, numbering

about 20,000, last month's salary within the due date, namely, April 7. The Chief Accountant, it is understood, referred the matter to the Chief Executive Officer, who expressed the view that payment could be sanctioned by him provided the Mayor and leaders of the different parties agreed to it. The Mayor, Mr. A. R. Siddiqi, it is stated, informed the Chief Executive Officer on Sunday that so long as their decision, taken on March 31, was not set aside by a higher authority, the Corporation administration would go on as usual and, therefore, the employees could be given their salaries for the last month.

Acting on this advice of the Mayor, the Chief Executive Officer, it is now learnt, sanctioned the payment of salaries of all the Corporation employees on Monday.



H. Standard 8/20. 4. 41

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162.  
MAYORAL ELECTION  
To Take Place On  
April 28  
The "United Press" understands  
the next Mayoral election of the  
Calcutta Corporation will take  
place on April 28.

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M. 569/60 72

**CALCUTTA CORPORATION**

**Election Of Mayor  
& Dy. Mayor**

MEETING ON APRIL 28

**Requisition Motion For  
C.E.O.'s Re-appointment**

The first meeting of the Corporation for the current Financial Year will be held on April 28 for the election of the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor.

A requisition motion has been tabled by eighteen Councillors of the Corporation, belonging to the different groups, for the re-affirmation of the appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee, as Chief Executive Officer and for fixing his term of office at 15 months instead of two years, in view of the settlement with the Government. This motion is desired by the requisitionists to be taken up immediately after the election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

The requisitionists are:—

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee (leader of the Hindu Mahasabha group), Mr. Sudhir Ch. Ray Chaudhury, Mr. Bidhu Bhushan Sircar, Mr. Sudhansu Kumar Mitter, Mr. Prafulla Kumar Dutt, Haji Md. Yusuf, Mr. S. A. Habib, Mr. Abdul Matin, Mr. Harihar Das Chowdhury, Mr. Jagannath Kolay, Mr. Mohan Lal Mackar, Mr. Jogesh Chandra Ghose, Mr. Satyabrata Sen, Mr. Nuruddin Ahmed, Mr. Fakir Ch. Ghose, Mr. Sudhir K. Chatterjee, Mr. Netal Charan Paul and Syed Badrudduja.



## REQUISITION MOTION

Then the requisition motion referred to the settlement arrived at with the Government on March 31 by virtue of which they wanted to fix the term of office of J. C. Mukherjee for 15 months with effect from April 1 last. There was an implied admission here because the requisition did not at all refer to the resolution of March 31 last. When the requisition motion talked of "in view of settlement with the Government," there was an erroneous statement made. J. C. Mukherjee by his subsequent acceptance of the term of 15 months could not revive the conference which came to no decision as Mukherjee would not have less than 18 months.

His Lordship remarked that what he gathered was, there was no contract between Government and the Corporation or between Mukherjee and the Government that the appointment for 15 months would be sanctioned. His lordship however could not imagine that Government would not implement what they said or that Mr. Mukherjee would not carry out his undertaking to accept a lesser term.

Mr. Bose replied that the difficulty was, there was no proposal emanating from the Government. Certain proposals were discussed and the Ministers made it clear that they were expressing their own views and would not bind the Government. There was a proposal for 18 months which was turned down. Then there was a proposal for 15 months and it was said, "Government would consider the proposal of appointment for 15 months if Mukherjee would unconditionally cancel the withdrawal of the delegation of powers to the various departmental heads."

Mr. Justice Panckridge: That has been done.

Mr. Bose: But not in the manner demanded. The Mayor had said so in his speech as will appear from the minutes of the proceedings of March 31 last.

Then there was a further difficulty about this requisition. It was suggested that all that had to be done was to pass a resolution on April 28 next but it could not be done that day.

Mr. Justice Panckridge: Why not?

Mr. Bose replied that this was a fresh appointment and under the Rules of Business (Rule 19 (a)), such statutory appointments were to come through the Services Committee which would have to be reconstituted this time. Even if the proceedings of the old Services Committee were to be taken into consideration as the basis of the appointment, then the only proposition that could be considered on April 28 was to fix a day for the appointment or to adjourn the matter. In any case the resolution could not be passed on April 28 next.

In this connection a discussion took place as to whether an appointment for a period of 15 months was a permanent appointment or not. Mr. Bose said that all terms of appointment under the Act were permanent appointments for the period. His lordship expressed the view that it might be a substantive appointment but it did not follow that it was a permanent appointment.

Mr. Bose argued that this matter, relating to the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer, could not possibly be dealt with finally on April 28 next. It was bound to take time. Then it had got to be passed and sent to the Local Government for sanction. It was not as if this matter would be settled in court of one week.

## 'RESOLUTION WAS ILLEGAL'

Finally, making his submission, Mr. Bose said that as regards the legality of the resolution passed on March 31 last, it admitted of one answer and it was that that resolution was illegal. If that was so, then he submitted, he was entitled to an interim injunction on the authorities he had cited. His submission was that the question of convenience or inconvenience did not arise here. Even if it arose, there could be no inconvenience at all, because if and when the Court held that the resolution of March 31 was illegal, then there was power under section 2 (5) of the Act for the Local Government to appoint a person to perform the duties of the Chief Executive Officer until a proper election was made under section 51(a) of the Act. On all these considerations Mr. Bose submitted that his lordship would grant an interim injunction.

His lordship remarked that he had decided not to issue an interim injunction.

His lordship would deliver his judgment later on.

## MR. SARAT BOSE'S ARGUMENTS

At the commencement of the day's proceedings, Mr. Sarat Bose arguing on the question of law referred to five cases on the question

of notice where it had been held that the absence of proper notice had vitiated the whole proceedings. Counsel said that Mr. Banerjee had not attempted to distinguish between these cases on the point cited, namely, the proceedings would be void on the ground of want of notice.

Mr. Bose then proceeded to deal with the points raised by Mr. S. N. Banerjee. One of Mr. Banerjee's point was that no interim injunction could be granted. Along with this Mr. Bose would deal with the other point that being a representative suit people were entitled to come in at any stage and therefore injunction could not be granted. In reply Mr. Bose referred to 61 English Reports, 212, where an interim injunction was granted and also to English Reports, vol. 71, 344 and 347, and argued that if it was a case of illegality, it would not be necessary that they should all in fact concur with it, because the court would assume that all councillors were interested in preventing illegality. Another point of Mr. Banerjee was that the plaintiffs having no interest, having no right of property, could not get an interim injunction. Mr. Bose cited 91 A. C. 1, and 7 to show that beneficial proprietary right was not necessary to get an interim injunction. But what was necessary was to show common interest and common grievance to justify a person suing in a representative capacity to get an interim injunction. Further, it would be quite sufficient for the second plaintiff to bring an action without the first plaintiff joining in the action or other rate-payer joining with the first plaintiff. (3 Ch. Appeal, 262 and 272). The other point of Mr. Banerjee was that the conduct of the plaintiffs did not entitle them to any relief. Mr. Bose had listened in vain for any exposition of the conduct of the plaintiffs disentitling them to any relief. One would expect that Mr. Banerjee would rely on some conduct of the plaintiffs which amounted to estoppel or waiver or acquiescence. Unfortunately the proceedings of March 31 showed that the second plaintiff and others repeatedly protested against the meeting being continued. Even if mistakenly the second plaintiff did not object to the proceedings of March 31 going on he would still be entitled to come before the court and say that the whole thing was illegal. (1924, 1 Ch. 357 and 573).

Another point of Mr. Banerjee was that the balance of convenience was against granting of an injunction. The argument was fallacious. It was true that the principle of balance of convenience could be resorted to in certain circumstances, but it was well-settled that the principle of balance of convenience could not be resorted to in a case where the complaint was of an illegality or an encroachment on the provision of the Statute. (English Reports, Vol. 53, 285, 287 and 288).

## A LEGAL INJURY

The next point of Mr. Banerjee was that the question of law raised here ought not to be decided now. It was obvious that in this case there was no question of facts to be gone into. Here it was no question of facts to be gone into. Here it was a dry question of law and there was no reason why that question of law could not be discussed. One good reason for not deciding it was that there was no answer to the question of law raised. Mr. Banerjee had only attempted to shelve the question for an indefinite period. Mr. Bose submitted that there could be no possible answer to the question of law raised, namely, that the act of the Corporation and its members on March 31 was entirely illegal. If that was so, not only was there a good case for perpetual injunction but that the plaintiffs had made out an unanswerable case for perpetual injunction.

The other point of Mr. Banerjee was that there was no allegation of injury. After referring to the Code which talked of "other injury of any kind", Mr. Bose said that injury need not be assessable in terms of pound, shilling and pence. Here it was legal injury. Injunction might be granted to prevent a breach of an obligation cast by the Statute which was enforceable by law. Individual members of the Corporation were entitled to 48 hours' notice of the business to be transacted. Here their rights had been invaded and therefore there had been a breach of an obligation cast by the Statute, which was enforceable by law. Further, this court like other chartered High Courts derived some of its powers of the old Chancery Courts and that had been laid down clearly in the judgment of Chief Justice Beaumont in 55 Bom. 659. Further, there was allegation of positive injury made in the petition. Also the ratepayer stood to suffer material injury because the Corporation funds were spent by a person not validly appointed as Chief Executive Officer. All his (Mukherjee's) drawings on the municipal funds would be illegal if his appointment was void. It would be mal-administration of the ratepayers' funds which were held in trust for the general body of ratepayers. (English Reports, Vol. 40 773). Further, injury was defined as any wrongful act done. (18 Equity, 172, and 178). Mr. Bose submitted that it would thus appear that not only there was a breach of statutory obligation, not only there was injury of any kind, but there was also injury which could be assessed in terms of money. For, any act done by Mukherjee from April 1 would be an illegal act and the municipal funds would suffer, and every act of his would be breach of the trust.

As Mr. Bose proceeded to reply to Mr. Banerjee's another point, namely, that the plaintiffs had equal efficacious relief in the Act itself by means of an application to the local government, and therefore the plaintiffs should not take recourse to the court of law, his lordship asked counsel not to trouble about that point.

Mr. Bose then dealt with the question whether there was a lacuna in the Act and whether the requisition motion for April 28 could be considered that day, and finally submitted that he was entitled to an interim injunction.

His lordship made the observation stated earlier that he had decided not to issue an interim injunction.



H. Standard A/23.4.41  
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Wednesday, April 23, 1941.

HIGH COURT

## CORPORATION C. E. O.'S APPOINTMENT

### Interim Injunction Prayer Rejected

#### SJ. SARAT CHANDRA BOSE'S ARGUMENTS

Before Mr. Justice Panckridge, further hearing was resumed on Tuesday of the application made on behalf of plaintiffs Manindra Nath Banerjee, Barrister and rate-payer, and Satish Chandra Bose, Barrister and Councillor, for a temporary injunction restraining the Corporation of Calcutta from acting in pursuance of a resolution purported to have been passed on March 31 last and from taking any steps in furtherance thereof or giving effect thereto until the disposal of the suit. In the application the plaintiffs also asked for an injunction restraining J. C. Mukherjee from acting or continuing or purporting to act as Chief Executive Officer in terms of that resolution until the disposal of the suit.

In the suit the plaintiffs asked for perpetual injunctions against the Corporation of Calcutta and J. C. Mukherjee on similar lines.

Mr. Sarat Bose practically took the whole of the day to reply to the various points raised on behalf of the defendants and submitted that he was entitled to an interim injunction.

At the end of his argument his lordship remarked that he had decided not to issue an interim injunction. His lordship said that he would give his reasons later on.

Mr. Sarat Bose, Mr. P. C. Basu and Mr. P. B. Mukherjee appeared for the plaintiffs; Mr. S. N. Banerjee (Sr.), and Mr. S. B. Sinha for defendant J. C. Mukherjee; Sir A. K. Roy (Advocate-General) and Mr. S. B. Sinha for defendant Corporation; Mr. Surita, Mr. B. C. Ghose and Mr. S. P. Chowdhury for added defendant-councillors; Mr. Clough for added defendant-ratepayers.

At the commencement of the day's (Tuesday's) proceedings the Advocate-General informed the court that since yesterday (Monday) afternoon there had been a notice sent for the consideration of this matter relating to the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer at the first meeting of the Corporation to be held on April 28 next. A copy of the requisition was later handed up to the court.

#### INTERIM INJUNCTION

Arguing on behalf of the plaintiffs in support of the application for an interim injunction, Mr. Sarat Bose at the outset cited various authorities to show that the provision as to time in connection with the notice to be given of the business to be transacted at Corporation meetings should be strictly adhered to. Mr. Bose then proceeded to answer the various points raised by Mr. S. N. Banerjee on behalf of the defendant J. C. Mukherjee and also replied to the arguments advanced by the Advocate-General and Mr. B. C. Ghose.

Proceeding, Mr. Bose said that while not attempting to answer his point of law, Mr. S. N. Banerjee had tried to draw a harrowing picture of what would happen if J. C. Mukherjee was restrained. It had been said that there was a lacuna in the Calcutta Municipal Act in that it did not provide for an emergency. Counsel said that there was no such lacuna in the Act. Section 2 (5) of the Calcutta Municipal Act clearly laid it down that the local Government might by a notification in the Gazette appoint a person to perform the powers and duties which were conferred or imposed on the Executive Officer until that Officer was appointed under Section 51 (1) of the Act. That was a complete answer to any suggestion of a deadlock or public inconvenience being caused if J. C. Mukherjee was restrained, because that section contemplated a position where there had been a failure to appoint the Executive Officer under Section 51 (1) of the Act. Therefore no harrowing picture could be drawn at all. Once it was held that the resolution of March 31 was illegal, then counsel took it, the proper authorities would exercise the powers conferred on them by the statute.

Counsel then referred to the requisition handed that day for the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer and said that apparently that had been done in the light of the discussion that had taken place in the court on Monday last. He did not complain of it. Unfortunately the draftsmen took leave of their intelligence and commonsense for the time being. In the first place the requisition motion sought to affirm the resolution of the Co-



*Standard 27.4.41*

*76*

*M. 509/40*

#### MAYORAL ELECTION

##### Hindu Mahasabha To Support Mr. P. N. Brahma

It is understood that the Hindu Mahasabha Party in the Calcutta Corporation at a meeting held yesterday (Saturday) evening at the residence of its leader, S. N. C. Chatterjee, decided not to set up any candidate from the party for the Mayoral election and to support the candidature of Mr. Phanindra Nath Brahma, the nominee of the Congress Municipal Association for the office of Mayor.

The Moslem League Party in the Corporation also met yesterday to discuss the matter but adjourned till Monday morning without coming to any decision in regard to the Mayoral election.

It may be recalled that according to the terms of the Congress-League pact which was entered into last year, a Hindu—a nominee of the Congress Municipal Association is to be elected Mayor of Calcutta this year.



A.P.B. Patuika 8 25/4/41

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## City's Mayoral Election

HALF-A-DOZEN CANDIDATES

### Question Of Mr. Siddiqi's Re-election

As the date for the election of the city's mayor is approaching, speculation is rife in circles interested in the affairs of the City Corporation as to who is going to have this honour this year. Enquiries made from different parties in the Corporation go to show that there are more than half-a-dozen prospective candidates, the Forward Bloc having no less than four, the Hindu Mahasabha two and one among the nominated councillors, who was formerly a Deputy Mayor.

As regards the prospect of the various candidates, it seems that so far as the Hindu Mahasabha is concerned, either of its two candidates, Mr. N. C. Chatterjee and Mr. Sushil Sen, will have a good chance if they can secure support of all the Hindu councillors, irrespective of party adhesions. It is, however, at the moment difficult to forecast if the Forward Bloc group of Hindu councillors will join hands with the Mahasabha on this occasion.

None of the four candidates of the Bose Group, namely, Mr. Phanindra Brahma, the present Deputy Mayor, Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherji, Mr. B. C. Chatterjee, and Mr. Sudhir Chandra Roy Choudhury can expect the full co-operation and support of their allies, the League group of councillors unless the party (Forward Bloc) unanimously or by a majority supports his candidature. There is, however, possibility of any one of these candidates getting the full support of the Hindu Mahasabha if the latter decides not to set up candidates of its own.

It is also reported that among the Forward Bloc candidates, Mr. B. C. Chatterjee is likely to secure greater support from the League quarters than any of the other three. Even then, Mr. Chatterjee's success cannot be taken as certain unless his own party (Forward Bloc) as a whole, or some of the Hindu Mahasabha members individually stand by him.

While normally the League would not be a contestant party, the view is strongly held by a majority of its members that "since the terms of the Bose-League Pact have not been honoured on various occasions in the absence of Mr. Bose" the League is not morally precluded from setting up a candidate who, they think, would serve the interests of the city best.

Opinion seems to be gaining ground in League circles that in view of their experience of the out-going year, specially during the past two months during which the Corporation was passing through a crisis, it (League) would be justified in persuading Mr. A. R. Siddiqi to allow his name to be put up for re-election.

Mr. Siddiqi along with some other members of the League party, while openly declaring the violation of the pact by the Boseites are anxious to honour, if possible, the terms of the League-Bose pact which included amongst other items the acceptance of the principle of rotation in the matter of the election of the Mayor. It is stated in League circles that several prominent Hindu councillors have expressed their desire to have Mr. Siddiqi re-elected. If, however, sufficient support from all sections of the House is forthcoming, Mr. Siddiqi may be prevailed upon by the League to seek election to the Mayoralty for a second term. And in the event of Mr. Siddiqi standing for election, an elected Hindu Councillor will receive the support of the League for the Deputy Mayoralty.

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## CONFIDENTIAL DIARY.

13

47

Date

Hour of receipt by Dy. Commr.

Due Daily to the Dy. Commissioner of Police, D. D.  
S. B.D. D.  
S. B.

## CALCUTTA POLICE.

From Inspector

Nalini Mookerjee

of D. D. Calcutta, dated

22/4 1944

Date and  
hour.

Diary.

Dy. Commissioner's Remarks  
and Orders.

Prof. Lalish Ghose and  
Kali Ghose.

The Proceedings commenced  
at about 6 PM and  
was terminated at  
about 8.30 PM with  
a vote of thanks to  
the chair.

The members were treated  
with cold drink and "Pan"  
No speech was delivered  
in the meeting nor any  
thing more was found  
note worthy to mention.

Submitted

Nalini Mookerjee

ASB

28/4

TDP

28/4



## CONFIDENTIAL DIARY.

17

48

Date

Hour of receipt by Dy. Commr.

D. D.

S. B.

Due Daily to the Dy. Commissioner of Police, D. D.  
S. B.

## CALCUTTA POLICE.

From Inspector

Nilesh Mohan Das

of D. D. Calcutta, dated  
S. B.

27-12-1941

Date and  
hour.

Diary.

Dy. Commissioner's Remarks  
and Orders.

for the Current Year (1941-42)

- (I) President Sh. Bishil  
Kumar Das Gupta. M.P.
- (II) Vice President Hrudaya Nath  
Gupta.
- (III) Secretary Harekrishna  
Mazumdar.
- (IV) Joint Secy Krishna Barak.  
Asst Secretary.
- (V) Treasurer Man Mohan  
Sarkar.

The following are the  
Members of the Executive  
Committee for the Year  
1941-42 as formally  
elected in the last meeting  
for the current year  
by votes: —

1. Beasantia Gupta.
2. Krishna Lal Bera.
3. Premodh Mukherjee
4. Badhir Raychaudhary (absent)
5. Jogen Das Mandal.

For  
28/12



## CONFIDENTIAL DIARY.

17

49

Date

Hour of receipt by Dy. Commr.

Due Daily to the Dy. Commissioner of Police, D. D.  
S. B.D. D.  
S. B.

## CALCUTTA POLICE.

From Inspector

Noline Mohan Banerjee

of D. D. Calcutta, dated

27/2 19 41

Date and hour.	Diary.	Dy. Commissioner's Remarks and Orders.
	<p>This is an annual general meeting of the Members of Ratepayers' Union of Ward III for the election of Office-bearers from the Executive Committee already formed in the last general meeting, for the year 1941-42 along with the following agenda:—</p> <p>Such as to Confirm the</p> <p>(i) Proceedings of the last general meeting.</p> <p>(ii) To receive and adopt the Annual Report and Audited Statement of Accounts for the year ending Dec 1940.</p> <p>iii To Consider and sanction the budget estimate as prepared by the Committee for the year 1941-42., which they did in the meeting after formal voting.</p> <p>The following Office-bearers were formally elected</p>	<p>JMB</p> <p>28/2</p>

P.T.O.



Due Daily to the Dy. Commissioner of Police, S. B.

D. D. 29.4.41

Date

Signature of receipt by Dy. Commr.

D. D.

S. B.

CALCUTTA POLICE.

From Inspector

Nolini Mohan Banerjee

of D. D. Calcutta, dated

27-4-1941

Date and  
hour.

Diary.

Dy. Commissioner's Remarks  
and Orders.

Ref- general meeting of katepayers' union (Kardati Nanga of Ward III) at 11 Hari Bose Lane at 6 pm on 27-4-

begs to report that the Seventeenth annual general meeting of katepayers union of Ward III was held this evening at the office 11 Hari Bose Lane under the presidency of Haro Prasad Mahomed of the ward in question.

The meeting was attended by 27 members and the following were prominent amongst them:—

1. Inlal Chand Mishra.
2. Manohar Birkel.
3. Swarn Kumar Ghosal.
4. Dr Bishil Kumar Gupta.
5. Arudaya Nath Gupta.
6. And Jitendra Krishna Barak.

not noted

Pr

P. T. C.



## PREFERENCE TO JAPAN

### Agreement Signed With Indo-China

Tokyo, May 6.  
Most-favoured nation treatment with the right of Japanese merchants to join the Indo-Chinese Commercial Federation are among the provisions of a Japanese Indo-Chinese economic convention signed here to-day (Tuesday) by Mr. Matsuoka and Vichy's representative M. Arsene Henry.

Trade and customs clauses, in addition to conceding most-favoured nation treatment, provide that Indo-China shall exempt from customs or reduce the minimum tariff on the principal Japanese products and levy the minimum tariff in all other Japanese products. Japan undertakes to accord "Favourable" tariff to the principal Indo-Chinese products.

The agreement also provides for the participation of Japanese capital in agriculture, mining and hydraulic concessions, and the establishment of Japanese schools in French Indo-China.—Reuter.

### M. GUENTHER

#### Swedish Foreign Minister Visits Helsinki

Helsinki, May 6.  
Swedish Foreign Minister M. Guenther arrived here on an official visit. He was greeted at the airport by the Finnish Foreign Minister M. Witting.—Reuter.

## TREACHERY OF BULGARIA

### Condemnation By Greek Minister In London

London, May 6.  
The Greek Minister in London, M. Simopoulos condemned Bulgaria for the facts of treachery she had committed in the last fifty years at an Overseas League luncheon to-day (Tuesday). The British Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Butler, who presided declared that M. Simopoulos had done great service in underlining Bulgaria's historic role in the Balkans. "From the point of view of the Government I know it will not be forgotten in future," Mr. Butler added.—Reuter.

### BRIGADIER PUTTICK

#### Appointed Commander Of New Zealand Troops In Crete

Wellington, May 6.  
The Minister of Defence Mr. Jones has announced that Brigadier Edward Puttick has been appointed temporary commander of the New Zealand forces in Crete in place of Major General Freyberg.—Reuter.

## SHIPS SEIZED BY U. S.

### Motion To Prohibit Transfer Defeated

Washington, May 7.  
A motion to prohibit the transfer from one belligerent to another of any ships taken over by the United States for its own defence purposes was defeated in the House of Representatives yesterday (Tuesday).—Reuter.

## ROOSEVELT'S SON AT CAIRO

London, May 7.  
Captain James Roosevelt has arrived in Cairo from Calcutta, according to the Ankara radio.—Reuter.

back to Britain. Some of the British and some from Norway and Holland.

On the whole journey we saw not a single German raider, not one long range Nazi bomber and only once did we have a submarine alert. All the time nobody took any chances. Every time the faint trace of any ship was seen on the horizon a fast warship, which was among the escorting ships, would dash out ahead of us and investigate the passerby. For many days both at the beginning and end of the voyage we received regular and cheering visits from British long range flying boats on their long ocean sweeps in search of submarines. Our ship's personnel manned anti-aircraft guns day and night. It was a fascinating voyage and cheering one.—Reuter.

## NETHERLANDS INDIES

### Not In Favour Of Peace With Any Price

Batavia, May 6.  
We want to live in peace with all but not any price, said the Netherlands Foreign Minister Van Kleffens in a farewell broadcast to the people of the Dutch East Indies to-day (Tuesday) on the eve of his departure for Australasia and America. Referring to the tension in the Pacific Van Kleffens said: "We are definitely not aggressive but there should not be any doubts that we would certainly oppose any unreasonable demands; most of all we would fight if attacked in these territories."—Reuter.

## SEIZED ITALIAN SHIPS

### U. S. Authorities Order For Repair

London, May 7.  
The United States Maritime Commission have ordered that repairs should be carried out on the 27 Italian merchant ships recently seized by the authorities.—Reuter.

### M. KALININ

#### Receives Vichy Ambassador To Moscow

Moscow, May 6.  
The President of the Soviet Union, M. Kalinin, to-day (Tuesday) received the new Vichy Ambassador M. Bergery, who presented his credentials. Yesterday M. Bergery paid a social call on the German Ambassador Count Schulenberg.—Reuter.



C. E. O. at an ordinary meeting of the Corporation; they had to call a special meeting for the purpose.

#### RESCISSION OF RESOLUTION

Rising on a point of order, Mr. Hamdoor Rahaman said that under Rule 17 (g) of the Rules of Business of the House, no resolution of the Corporation or a part of it could be altered within six months until that resolution had been first of all rescinded. Mr. Chatterjee's resolution did not say anything about rescission. The original resolution was to appoint Mr. J. C. Mookherjee for a period of two years but in the resolution moved by Mr. Chatterjee they desired to reduce the period of two years to 15 months. This, the speaker maintained, they could not do without first rescinding the original resolution.

Mr. Sudhir Chandra Roy Chowdhury maintained that Mr. Chatterjee's resolution was absolutely a fresh one consequent upon the second letter of the Government dated March 29, 1941. His interpretation of the Government letters was that Government was not opposed to the re-appointment of Mr. J. C. Mookherjee but they were opposed to the period for which he was sought to be re-appointed in the original Corporation resolution. It was evident, remarked the speaker, from the conduct of the Government at the conference where they agreed that Mr. J. C. Mookherjee might be re-appointed for a further period of 15 months.

#### TALK WITH MINISTERS

The Mayor: Government did not actually agree; some of the Ministers in a friendly way agreed. A Minister is not the Government.

Mr. Roy Chowdhury: Government has not vetoed the appointment; they have vetoed that portion of the resolution which related to the period.

The Mayor: That is your interpretation.

Mr. Roy Chowdhury: Yes, Sir, that is my interpretation.

#### PERIOD OF SERVICE

Rising on a point of order, Mr. Satish Chandra Bose referred to the last portion of Mr. Chatterjee's resolution where the period of service was sought to be fixed at 15 months dating from 1st April, 1941. They were thus being asked to give retrospective effect to the resolution which Mr. Bose pointed out they had no right to do under the Act. "We cannot go out of the way," Mr. Bose further pointed out, "and give retrospective effect and say that the appointment will hold good from

may not be

Mayor

Mr. Chatterjee

not be effect

operative but the

cease to exist as

approved by G

The Mayor: If we

effect to it, then the resolution only

stands on paper.

DISAPPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT

Mr. Chatterjee remarked that dis-

approval of the appointment did not

mean abrogation, rescission or can-

cancellation of a resolution passed by

the House. If for instance Govern-

ment withdrew that letter of dis-

approval, the resolution became

automatically operative.

The Mayor: Where

provision in the Act that G

withdraw the letter of approval?

Referring to the ques

retrospective effect M

Chatterjee said that under Section 51, the

Corporation could appoint any per-

son for such period as it thought fit.

There was no bar, no fetters, no

restriction against the Corporation

making an appointment for any

period it liked. Mr. Chatterjee said

that the Corporation had exercised

this authority in the past. As an

instance he cited the case of Dr.

S. N. Ghose who was appointed

Health Officer under Section 51 (1)

of the Calcutta Municipal Act in

September 1939 with retrospective

effect from April of that year. Sec-

tion 51, he said, was plain, unambi-

guous and comprehensive enough on

this point.

#### RULES OF BUSINESS

Mr. Debendra Nath Mookherjee said that the points raised in course of the discussions did not relate to rules of business but were constitutional questions. They had to decide whether the Corporation had the right to make an appointment with retrospective effect. Secondly, what would be the effect of the disapproval by Government of a resolution of the Corporation regarding the appointment of its officers. He pointed out that opinion on these questions were divided. He suggested that it would be prudent for the Corporation in the circumstances to refer the matter to the best legal expert, preferably to the Advocate-General for his opinion.

The Mayor (Mr. Phanindra Nath Brahma) said that he fully approved of the suggestion made by Mr. Debendra Nath Mookherjee subject to the approval of his suggestion by the House.

The Mayor said that he was prepared to give a ruling to-day on the

y, they have

resolution which

the re-affirmed were

no effect or effective.

points, which the Mr.

be authoritatively settled by

side, independent, competent law

in whom the House had confidence.

BETWEEN HORNS OF DILEMMA

They were, the Mayor continued,

between the horns of a dilemma.

If Mr. Mookherjee's appointment

was held to be illegal, then all the

acts done by him, all the suits

started by him, all the assessments

made by him and all the contracts

entered into by him in the mean-

time would be null and void. There-

fore, they had to approach the

matter very carefully and obtain

the best legal opinion in the matter

possible from some well-known legal

expert from outside. They had to

see whether the period of service of

Mr. Mookherjee could be regularised,

legalised and made effective. He

referred to Mr. Burn's resolution

which stated that the resolution of

the 31st March last would remain

operative till a proper meeting of

the Corporation could be called to

submit a fresh proposal to the

Government. Supposing the fresh

proposal appointed Mr. X and

not Mr. Mookherjee as C. E. O.,

then who would work as

C. E. O. during the intervening

period, Mr. X or Mr. Mookherjee be-

cause the fresh proposal could not

be given effect to without Govern-

ment's approval. That was also one

of the questions they had to consider.

EX-MAYOR'S SUGGESTION

Mr. Abdur Rahaman Siddiqi,

Mayor, suggested that without se-

ing the matter to any outside

let them settle it themselves

special meeting. Mr. Siddiqi

they should send the resolution to

would be passed at the spec

ing to the Government and "I

assure my colleagues in the Ho

he said, that "Government

accept the resolution if it is with

the four corners of the agree

that was entered into." If how

they decided in favour of se

the whole matter to an outside

expert, he suggested, t

be referred to a lawyer

province, preferably to the

General of the Federal C

Eventually consid

matter was postponed un

next week and in the meanin

Mayor would consult legal ou



Thursday, May 8, 1941

## CORPORATION MEETING

# RE-APPOINTMENT OF MR. MOOKHERJEE AS C. E. O.

## Lengthy Discussions On Point Of Order

### CONSIDERATION OF MATTER POSTPONED

#### Mayor To Seek Legal Advice In The Meantime

The question of Mr. J. C. Mookherjee's re-appointment as Chief Executive Officer again came up before the Calcutta Corporation yesterday (Wednesday). After nearly two hours' discussions, consideration of the matter was postponed till Friday next week.

#### MR. CHATTERJEE'S MOTION

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee moved: That the Resolutions of the Corporation dated the 28th February, 1941, and the 22nd March, 1941, whereby Mr. J. C. Mookherjee was re-appointed as Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation be re-affirmed and that in view of the settlement which was arrived at with the Government of Bengal on the 31st March, 1941, the term of his office be fixed at 15 months from the first day of April, 1941."

Points of order were raised by Mr. B. N. Roy Chowdhury, Mr. Satish Chandra Bose and Mr. Hamdoor Rahaman, maintaining that Mr. Chatterjee's motion was not in order.

#### LENGTHY DISCUSSIONS

Lengthy discussions then ensued on the points of order raised in which several speakers from different sections of the House participated.

The Mayor (Mr. Phanindra Nath Brahma) pointed out that in view of the far-reaching consequences of the questions raised he thought it advisable that the matter should be referred to an outside, independent and competent lawyer for his advice. It was agreed that the Mayor would consult legal opinion in the matter and in the meantime consideration of the question was postponed till Friday next week.

The Corporation, on a suggestion by the ex-Mayor, Mr. Abdur Rahaman Siddiqi, decided to convey its felicitations to Poet Rabindra Nath Tagore on his completing his eightieth year.

#### MOTION NOT IN ORDER

At the suggestion of Mr. Sudhir Chandra Roy Chowdhury, the question of Mr. J. C. Mookherjee's re-appointment as Chief Executive Officer was taken out of its turn.

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee then moved the resolution, as stated above.

Rising on a point of order, Mr. B. N. Roy Chowdhury maintained that Mr. Chatterjee's motion was not in order. Firstly, the resolutions which Mr. Chatterjee wanted to re-affirm did not exist after the Government's disapproval of the appointment of Mr. Mookherjee which was made in those resolutions. Those resolutions, he maintained, were "dead" and therefore there was no resolution before the House to be re-affirmed.

the 1st of April which was long past. The resolution as it stands is illegal in form and in substance."

Proceeding Mr. Bose pointed out that there was no settlement arrived at with the Government, as stated in Mr. Chatterjee's resolution. Individual Ministers could give expression to their opinions but that could not be the Government's opinion. Ministers were not Government. An individual minister could not be the Government. There was a ruling only recently by the High Court.

#### GOVT. DISAPPROVAL

Mr. Mahomed Raffique thought that Government might have disapproved the appointment but so far as the Corporation was concerned, the resolution was there.

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee referred to the points that had been raised. The first point that had been raised, he said, was that immediately the Government disapproved, there was an automatic abrogation of the resolution.

#### ABROGATION OF RESOLUTION

Mr. Chatterjee proceeding said that what he wanted to submit for consideration of the Mayor was that it was not for the Government of Bengal to make the appointment; the appointment had got to be made by the Corporation. Government had got only the power of veto.

The Mayor: Government have the power of approval.

Continuing Mr. Chatterjee said that disapproval by Government did not automatically lead to the abrogation of a resolution that had been passed by the House.

The Mayor: The question



M. 509/40

82

W.R. d. 17.5.41

1924. Reception to Mr. Phanindra-nath Brahma (para. 1832c), Mayor of Calcutta.—

Date—11-5-41.

Place—Oriental Seminary, Upper Chitpore Road, Calcutta.

President—Jagadhatrī K. Banarjī (para. 1534).

Audience—100.

Speakers.—Krishna Ch. Banarjī [para. 963(1)], Kshitish Ch. Chakrabarti (para. 762c) and others.

Organisers.—Ward II Forward Bloc.

A Congress flag was hoisted in the meeting. The speakers felicitated the Mayor, **Phanindra Nath Brahma**, and requested him to bear in mind the ideology and programme of the Forward Bloc and its leader **Subhas Chandra Bose** (para. 1826). The Mayor, while replying, stated that he would try his utmost to oppose the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill and that his election was a triumph for the Forward Bloc and **Subhas Bose**.



Statement under 115 Defence of India Rules  
concerning Person during 115 weeks ending 31.5.41

Name of person + date	Brief facts with particulars of activities.	Remarks.
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— Nil —

H. S. Pille -

Officer-in-charge  
Bombay District  
1.6.41



A.B. Patrika & 21/5/41

P 83

M. 508/40

**CORPORATION MAHASABHA  
PARTY**

**ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS**

At a meeting of the Hindu Maha-  
sabha Party in the Corporation held at  
the house of Mr. N. C. Chatterjee at  
47/1, Theatre Road, on Tuesday the  
following office-bearers of the party  
were elected.

Leader — Mr. N. C. Chatterjee.

Secretaries — Messrs. Devendra  
Nath Mukherjee and Mrigendra Kumar  
Mazumdar.

Whips — Messrs. Bijoy Singh Nahar  
and Sudhansu Kumar Mitter.

File  
P.D. 28/5



H. Standard 8/27.5.41

84

M. 509/60

## MAYOR & DEPUTY ENTERTAINED

WELCOME ADDRESS BY  
WARD NO. 27 RATEPAYERS

### Discussion On Water Supply Problem

The Calcutta Engineering College, the Ballygunge Youngmen's Association and the South-East Ballygunge Rate-payers' Association presented addresses of welcome to the Mayor and to the Deputy Mayor on Saturday last before a distinguished gathering of the rate-payers of Ward No. 27. The function took place at the Calcutta Engineering College.

Mr. S. N. Bhattacharjee, Barrister-at-Law, presided.

The Deputy Mayor (Mr. M. A. H. Ispahani) congratulated the rate-payers of Ward No. 27 on having elected a citizen of the calibre of Mr. N. C. Chatterjee as their representative to the City Corporation.

Mr. Ispahani thanked Mr. Chatterjee for the keen interest he had been taking in the "Cleaner Calcutta Campaign" which was recently inaugurated and appealed to all citizens and rate-payers of the city for co-operating with them in order to make the campaign a success."

### FINANCIAL AID

Rai Bahadur P. Mukherji, M.L.A. (Punjab) and Mr. K. C. Roy Chowdhury requested the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor and the Councillors of the Corporation to grant increased financial aid to the Calcutta Engineering College to enable it to grow and become ever more useful.

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee stressed the necessity of immediate attention to the problem of water supply in the Ballygunge area and he assured the rate-payers that with the assistance of the Mayor, steps would be immediately taken to secure a better supply in Ward No. 27. The "Cleaner Calcutta Campaign" is entirely non-communal and is extremely timely and he appealed to the citizens to translate Deshabandhu's programme into action and to tackle the bustee problem and other civic problems for the real service of "Daridra Narayana".

### ADVICE TO RATE-PAYERS

The Mayor (Mr. P. N. Brahma) advised the Rate-payers' Associations to be active and vigilant and not to wake up every third year only to extract impossible promises from councillors. He wanted them to study the proceedings of the Corporation from week to week and to organise public opinion against any misdeed or favouritism on the part of the Corporation particularly in matters of appointment.

The Mayor concluded by reminding the audience that eternal vigilance was the price which has got to be paid for freedom and the rate-payers of Calcutta, if they want any freedom, must pay that price for freedom.

The President in a neat little speech thanked the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor and emphasized the difficulties under which the rate-payers of South Calcutta laboured and the apathy and indifference



15th Sunday Bazar 29.5.85  
M. 508/100

## কলিকাতা কর্পোরেশন

কোরণীদ্বকে নামাজের জন্য  
ছুটি দেওয়া লইয়া বিতর্ক

কবি রবীন্দ্রনাথকে অভিনন্দন

কলিকাতা কর্পোরেশনের গত বুধবারের সভায় উহার এম্বুলেন্স বিভাগের দুইজন মুসলমান টেলিফোন কোরণীকে জম্মা নামাজের জন্য ছুটি দিবস প্রদান লইয়া কিছু বিতর্ক সৃষ্টি হয়।

কর্পোরেশনের ১নং সার্ভিসেস ক্যান্ডিড কমিটি উক্ত দুইজন টেলিফোন কোরণীকে প্রতি শব্দবার জম্মা নামাজের জন্য বিতর্ক করে এক ঘণ্টা করিয়া ও রমজানের সময় প্রতি দিন ১ ঘণ্টা করিয়া ছুটি দিবসের জন্য এবং স্বাস্থ্য সচিবকে আতিরিক্ত ব্যয় না করিয়া এম্বুলেন্সের এই বিভাগের অবশিষ্ট কর্মচারীদের দ্বারা এই কার্য সমাধা করাইবার যথোচিত ব্যবস্থা করিবার জন্য এক সুপারিশ করিয়াছিলেন।

উক্ত কমিটির চেয়ারম্যান ডেপুটি মেয়র মিঃ ইম্পাহানী কমিটির এই সুপারিশ গ্রহণার্থে কর্পোরেশনের সভায় উপস্থান করিলে শ্রীযুত দেবেন্দ্রনাথ মাহাসভা (হিন্দু মহাসভা) বলেন যে, তিনি নীতিগত প্রশ্নের দিক হইতে কমিটির উক্ত সুপারিশ গ্রহণ করার বিরোধী। এম্বুলেন্সের মাত্র তিনজন টেলিফোন কোরণী আছেন, তন্মধ্যে ২জন মুসলমান। এই ২জন মুসলমান কর্মচারীকে যদি জম্মা নামাজের জন্য বিতর্ক করে ১ ঘণ্টা করিয়া ছুটি দেওয়া হয় তবে এম্বুলেন্সের সূক্ষ্মভাবে কার্য পরিচালনার বিষয় হইবে; কারণ এম্বুলেন্সে টেলিফোন বিভাগে এক মুহুর্তের জন্য কার্যের বিরতি থাকার উপায় নাই। শ্রীযুত মাহাসভা কর্মচারীদের কর্মকাণ্ডের জন্য এইরূপভাবে ছুটি দিবস সাধারণ নিয়ম করার বিরোধী। এইরূপ দাবী যদি হিন্দুদের পক্ষ হইতেও করা হইত, তাহা হইলেও তিনি উহার বিরোধিতা করিতেন। তিনি পুনঃ পুনঃ এই কথা জানান যে, যদি কোন প্রকৃত ধার্মিক মুসলমান কর্মচারী এরূপ ছুটি চাহেন তাহা হইলে তিনি এই ছুটি দিবস পক্ষপাতী। কিন্তু সেক্ষেত্রে উহা সিদ্ধান্ত করার ভার প্রধান কর্মকর্তার নিকটেই জড়িয়া দেওয়া উচিত। গত বৎসরও এরূপ করা হইয়াছিল।

হিন্দু মহাসভা দলের নেতা শ্রীযুত এন সি চ্যাটার্জি বলেন যে, এই দুইজন টেলিফোন কোরণীকে জম্মা নামাজের জন্য ছুটি দেওয়া কি যুক্তিযুক্ত হইবে? এই বিষয়ে কলিকাতা দ্বারার ব্রিগেডের মত চাওয়া হইয়াছিল। ফায়ার ব্রিগেড স্পষ্ট বলিয়াছেন যে, তাহারা তাহাদের মুসলমান কর্মচারীদের জম্মা নামাজের জন্য কোনরূপ ছুটি দেন না। কর্পোরেশনে কেন তবে এরূপ করা হইবে? ফায়ার ব্রিগেড যাহা করেন, তাহা কি কর্পোরেশনে হইতে পারে না? হাইকোর্টের ওজন মুসলমান বিচারপতি আছেন, তাহারাও জম্মা নামাজের জন্য এরূপ ছুটি দেন না?

মিঃ বি এন রায় চৌধুরী (মনোনীত) কমিটির সুপারিশ সমর্থন করেন। তিনি হিন্দু মহাসভা দলের সদস্যদের প্রতি কটাক্ষপাত করিয়া বলিতে আরম্ভ করেন। তাহার প্রস্তাব শেষ না হইতেই সভার নিম্নাধিত সমর উত্তীর্ণ হইয়া যাওয়ার সভার কার্য আগামী তৃতীয় পর্যায়ে স্থগিত থাকে।

পানীয় জলের অভাবের অভিযোগ  
সভার প্রথম ভাগে শ্রীযুত নরেশনাথ সিং (কংগ্রেস) ২০নং, ১৮নং, ১৯নং ও বাসীপাড়া অঞ্চলে যথোপযুক্ত মাঠে পানীয় জলের অভাবের অভিযোগ করেন।

মেয়র শ্রীযুত ফণীন্দ্রনাথ বসু জানান যে, এই বিষয়ে যথোচিত ব্যবস্থা অবলম্বনের জন্য প্রধান কর্মকর্তার দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ করা হইবে। তিনি নিজেও এই অবস্থার প্রতিকারের জন্য যথাসাধ্য চেষ্টা করিবেন। মেয়র প্রসঙ্গক্রমে বলেন যে, সহরে উপযুক্ত পরিমাণ জলের অভাব কর্পোরেশনের পানীয় জলের পরিমাণের অভাবের জন্য নহে; পানীয় জল যথেষ্ট পরিমাণই আছে; কিন্তু জল সরবরাহ ব্যবস্থার দুটীতেই বিভিন্ন স্থানে জলাভাব দেখা দেয়। জল সরবরাহ ব্যবস্থার উন্নতি সাধনের জন্য কর্পোরেশনের আন্তরিকভাবে চেষ্টা করিতে হইবে।

ক্যান্সলে কলেরা ও গুটী বসন্তের বেড  
কর্পোরেশন ক্যান্সলে হাসপাতালে কলেরা রোগীদের জন্য প্রতিটি ৪৫ টাকা ব্যয়ে অনুকূল ১শতটি পর্য্যন্ত বেড খোলার প্রস্তাব মঞ্জুর করেন। এই বেডসমূহ ১৯৪১ সালের ১৭ই মার্চ হইতে যথাপ্রয়োজনানুসারে খোলা যাইবে।

কর্পোরেশন গত ৩০শে এপ্রিল পর্য্যন্ত ক্যান্সলে হাসপাতালে মোট ২০৬৫০ টাকা ব্যয়ে গুটী বসন্তের রোগীদের জন্য আতিরিক্ত ২শতটি বেড পরিচালনার জন্য স্বাস্থ্য সচিব যে প্রস্তাব করিয়াছিলেন, তাহা মঞ্জুর করেন। এইগুলি ছাড়াও স্বাস্থ্য সচিব ক্যান্সলে হাসপাতালে আরও ৫০টি বেড পরিচালনা করেন। উক্ত ৫০টি বেড গত ১ই এপ্রিল হইতে তালিয়া দেওয়া হইয়াছে।

শ্রীযুত শরীফুদ্দীন বসুকে কর্পোরেশনের টীচার টোং কলেজের ভাইস-প্রিন্সিপ্যাল পদে নিয়োগ করা হয়।

কমিটিসমূহের নিষ্পত্তি স্থগিত  
এইদিনকার সভায় কার্যতালিকার কলিকাতা কর্পোরেশনের বর্তমান বৎসরের বিভিন্ন কমিটি নিষ্পত্তির বিষয়টি অন্তর্ভুক্ত ছিল। কর্পোরেশন কমিটিসমূহ নিষ্পত্তির ব্যাপার এক সমস্যাকাল পর্য্যন্ত স্থগিত রাখেন।

কবি রবীন্দ্রনাথকে অভিনন্দন  
কবি রবীন্দ্রনাথের একাধিকতম জন্মদিবসে তাহাকে অভিনন্দিত করিয়া কলিকাতা কর্পোরেশন যে বাণী পাঠাইয়াছিলেন, কবি তদুত্তরে মেয়র ও কর্পোরেশনের সদস্যগণকে ধন্যবাদ জানাইয়া এই বাণী প্রেরণ করিয়াছেন।

মিঃ কে বি দত্তের মৃত্যুতে শোক  
কর্পোরেশন বুধবার সভার পাটনা হাইকোর্টের ব্যারিস্টার দেশপ্রসাদ মিঃ কে বি দত্তের মৃত্যুতে গভীর শোক প্রকাশ করিয়া এক প্রস্তাব গ্রহণ করেন।

In the meeting of the Calcutta Corporation on Wednesday last there was some amount of controversy over the question of granting leave to the two Muslim clerks employed in telephone duty in the Ambulance Department for Jamma prayer. This was recommended by the Service Committee of the Corporation. While this was moved before the Corporation Council by Mr. Shahani, Deputy Mayor, Debendra Nath Mukherjee (Hindu Mahasabha) opposed it on ~~principle~~ grounds of principle and by showing that this leave could be granted if any really pious Muslim should ~~stand~~ in it. He was personally not in favour of allowing leave on religious grounds to any one, Hindu or Muslim.

N.C. Chatterjee, leader of the Hindu Mahasabha party, opposed it and pointed out that the Fire Brigade on being consulted stated that they did not allow any such leave to their employees. Mr. B.N. Roy Choudhury (nominated) supported the motion.

file 31/5  
h/6



Quandabazar 31.5.86

M. 509/40

মেয়র সম্বন্ধনাঃ—গত বৃহস্পতি, ২৯শে মে  
প্রাতঃ ৮।। ঘটিকায় কলিকাতার নব নিষ্পত্তি মেয়র  
শ্রীযুক্ত ফণীন্দ্রনাথ রায় এম এ, বি এল মহাশয়কে  
চেতলা গার্লস স্কুলের সভ্য, শিক্ষক, শিক্ষায়ত্নী  
এবং ছাত্রীবৃন্দ স্কুল হলে সম্বন্ধনা করেন।  
অনুষ্ঠানে পৌরোহিত্য করেন শ্রীযুক্ত নগেন্দ্রলাল  
বসু বি এল মহাশয়। অনুষ্ঠানের প্রারম্ভে কুমারী  
বেলারাগী ঘোষ 'বন্দে মাতরম্' গান করেন। কুমারী  
দীপ্তি প্রজবাসী কর্তৃক আবাহন সংগীতের পর  
কুমারী পারুলবালা রায় অভিনন্দন পত্র পাঠ করেন।  
মেয়র মহাশয় প্রত্যুত্তরে নারীর শিক্ষা ও কল্যাণ  
সম্বন্ধে বলেন। কুমারী দীপ্তি প্রজবাসী কর্তৃক  
বিদায় সংগীতের পর সভা ভঙ্গ হয়।



Duanda Bazar 27.6.87

M. 509/60

কলিকাতা কর্পোরেশনের কর্মচারীরা কোন রাজনৈতিক প্রতিষ্ঠানের কর্মকর্তা হইতে পারিবেন না, এইরূপ একটা আদেশ কিছুকাল পূর্বে দেওয়া হইয়াছিল। কিন্তু দেখিতেছি, উহা সকল কর্মচারী সম্বন্ধে প্রযোজ্য নহে। সম্প্রতি কর্পোরেশনের সহকারী এডুকেশন অফিসার মহাশয় কলিকাতা জেলা মুসলিম লীগের কার্যকরী সমিতিতে নিম্নোক্ত হইয়াছেন এবং কর্পোরেশন যাহাকে ইমপ্ৰুভমেন্ট ট্রাস্টে এসেসর নিযুক্ত করিয়াছেন তিনিও দেখিতেছি সহকারী এডুকেশন অফিসার মহাশয়ের অনুরোধ হইয়াছেন। এ বিষয়ে কর্পোরেশনের নীতি স্পষ্ট করিয়া নির্দেশ করা প্রয়োজন।

An order was issued directing employees of the Calcutta Corporation not to become office-bearers of any political association. It is now found that it is not applicable to all employees, the Assistant Education Officer has recently been elected to the Working Committee of the Calcutta District Muslim League and the Improvement Trust Assessor appointed by the Corporation has also followed suit. The Corporation should clarify its policy in this regard.

Done  
11/6  
12/6

Feb 11/6



Tuesday, June 17, 1941.

## CORPORATION AFFAIRS

Bose-Ispahani  
Correspondence.Further Clarification Of  
The Issue

To The Editor

Sir.—The correspondence between Mr. Bose and Mr. Ispahani already released in the Press and the statements and counter-statements connected therewith, while throwing enough light on Corporation affairs, have yet left room for further clarification of the issue. We have hitherto waited in vain for some other Muslim Councillors to enlighten the public about the real state of things, but to no purpose. A closer study of the relevant facts, however, reveals a very unfortunate tangle in the Muslim League Municipal Association. Myself was elected leader of the Muslim League Municipal Association this year, defeating Mr. M. A. H. Ispahani by 11 to 7 votes at a meeting of the said Association convened by the then leader Mr. Ispahani and presided over by Mr. H. S. Suhrawardy himself. Mr. S. A. Habib and Dr. Sadeque Hossain were respectively elected Secretary and Whip of the Association. In that very meeting serious attempts were made by myself and my friends to induce Mr. Abdur Rahman Siddiqui to accept leadership of the Association, but Mr. Siddiqui categorically declined this honour in favour of Mr. Ispahani. Evidently the idea behind was to perpetuate the domination of Mr. Ispahani. Thereafter, I as leader of the Muslim League Municipal Association carried on negotiations with the leader of the Congress group and succeeded in securing fair terms and conditions from Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose which Mr. Ispahani has evidently failed to secure. On the basis of these negotiations Mr. Ispahani's Deputy Mayoralty and Mr. Brahma's Mayoralty were definitely assured against all attempts to disregard the pledge of the previous year. Meanwhile, serious attempts have however, been made to dislodge me from my rightful position and pitchfork Mr. Siddiqui therein. Against all established canons of democracy, election of myself and other office-bearers of the Muslim League Municipal Association has been challenged by the Calcutta District Muslim League on the ground of their (the Dist. League's) non-participation in the meeting and on the contention that they could alone call a meeting for election of office-bearers for the Muslim League Municipal Association, though neither of these considerations does in any way vitiate the proceedings of a legally convened meeting; for none of the members of the Calcutta District Muslim League, other than Councillors returned on the Muslim League ticket, were entitled to vote in that meeting. Neither the All India nor the Provincial Muslim League has ever interfered in the inner workings of a subordinate body or has ever intervened in the matter of election of office-bearers of the subordinate body. An appeal preferred before the Provincial League against the decision of the Calcutta District Muslim League has since been referred to an arbitration committee—but the Provincial League has meanwhile in its appellate jurisdiction issued certain interim directions on questions like (1) nomination of a leader of a coalition party and (2) formation of a Sub-Committee for selection of names for various Standing Committees in the Corpora-

Evading The  
IssueMr. Bose's "Absolutely  
Incorrect" Statements

Mr. M. A. H. Ispahani, Deputy Mayor of the Calcutta Corporation, has addressed the following letter to Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose in reply to the latter's letter on June 14 on the controversy arising out of the formation of the various Standing Committee in the Calcutta Corporation:—

16th June, 1941.

My dear Sarat Babu,

"I am in receipt of your letter of the 14th instant.

I wrote to you that my letter of the 4th instant would be my last in connection with the Corporation affairs as I felt and I still feel that the continuation of correspondence between us will serve no useful purpose. As you have made an attempt to answer some of the points raised in my previous letter, I shall deal with your letter, paragraph by paragraph and as briefly as possible:

Para 1. No Comment.

Para 2. No Comment.

Para 3.—Again you try to evade the issue. If 32 members are entitled to four seats, then by what method of calculation are 26 members of the Bose Group entitled to not less than four seats? I am not aware that your party consists of 57 members or that you have formed a coalition with the remaining groups in the Corporation including the unattached members and thereby acquired the right to allocate seats to them. I am afraid one attempt after another to explain away the question put by me, does not really take you any further than you were on the first day.

Para 4.—As a leader who is expected to be in possession of full facts, you will agree that pleading lack of knowledge or taking shelter behind impressions is indeed a feeble defence. I repeat that we did come to a decision at my house regarding the constitution of Committees, five coalition, five Bose Group and two Hindu Mahasabha. The actual allocation of seats by Subhas and myself corroborates this statement. The Europeans were definitely excluded on the insistence of Subhas Bose and I take it, with your tacit consent.

5. In view of my reply to para 4, no comment is necessary.

6. You are again trying to beat a retreat. How are you justified in claiming four seats for your group of 26? Why not suggest or accept a proposal to allot seats to various parties on a percentage basis—seats according to numerical strength? Why only seats to the Coalition according to numerical strength and seats to the Bose and Sabha Groups according to convenience or 'Zulum'?

7. I repeat your reliable informant is unreliable. I must again deny your statement about this year's Mayoral election.

8. Notwithstanding your reply my statements are nevertheless correct for they are not the creation of my imagination but are a record of facts as told me by the two gentlemen.

9. Your assumptions and allegations do not call for a reply. As a matter of fact, you are trying to do what you are accusing me of. You are trying to keep up a show of having a party when you have not the following. May I recall the case of the re-appointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee as C. E. O? Do you remember how many members of your group obeyed your mandate? If you do not, the public of Calcutta does!

I do not claim any more for my Party than what it is entitled to and I am quite prepared to sit down with the leaders of the various groups and work out the quotas of each group strictly on their numerical strength without inflation or weightage.

Let us not



tion—questions which were neither before them nor was any guidance sought thereon. These interim directions have, I am afraid, prejudged the whole issue. The Provincial League should have at best maintained the status quo pending their decision on the appeal. We are proposing to prefer another appeal to the Council of the Bengal Provincial Muslim League.

The public will realise from the above how and where matters stand now. It is a matter of common knowledge that the domineering attitude of one or two Muslim Councillors precipitated a crisis last year, but the unusual restraint exercised by the Momen group of Councillors amidst the most trying circumstances did not allow matters to drift. A sense of decency and extreme regard for Muslim solidarity alone prevented hitherto any washing off the dirty linen before the public.

It may be mentioned in passing that while the appeal was pending before the Provincial Muslim League Mr. Ispahani in indecent haste formed a Coalition Party with some Muslim League members and nominated Labour councillors in disregard of the definite direction of the Provincial League to stay all action pending its decision on the appeal.

So long as I continued as leader of the party everything was perfectly smooth. But immediately after the appointment of Mr. Siddiqui as leader of the Coalition Party by the Provincial Muslim League, things assumed a desperate turn. One fails to understand how Mr. Ispahani managed to assume the role of a self-styled leader and carry on negotiations with Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose. He has arrogated to himself powers which were never conferred on him by either the Muslim League Municipal Association or the Provincial Muslim League. Besides, he has deliberately violated the clear and definite directions of the Provincial Muslim League by agreeing to include Messrs. Baser Ali, Kalimuddin and Sadeque Hossain under pressure of Mr. Sarat Bose. Mr. Ispahani has by his tactless handling of the situation mismanaged the whole thing and Mr. Siddiqui, by throwing the responsibility on the former's shoulders has failed in his leadership.

From the Bose-Ispahani correspondence it appears that there is no disagreement about Chairmanships, Deputy Chairmanships, paying Committees, and quota of Muslim Councillors on the various Standing Committees. The real bone of contention is about one seat for the nominated councillors. There could be hardly any difficulty in making some adjustments to accommodate both European and nominated Councillors, if the matter were tackled in the right spirit. If Mr. Sarat Bose could so readily accommodate four independent Muslim Councillors (who have no quarter either in the Calcutta District Muslim League or in the Cal-

(Continued On Next Column)

waste our time and energy and bore the public any more with repetitions.

Yours faithfully,  
Sd. M. A. H. Ispahani.  
In a subsequent letter to Mr. Bose, Mr. Ispahani writes:—

16th June 1941

My Dear Sarat Babu,

I once more refer you to your letter of the 14th instant, and particularly to the following lines in paragraph 5 of the said letter:—

"I requested you twice in Indu's presence to find out the papers on which were recorded the decisions that Subhas and you had arrived at regarding the allocation of seats on the different committees and the names of the members both of you had decided to put on them, as that would throw light on the considerations which led to those decisions, and I told you that I had been informed that they were with Hamdoor Rahman. You informed me subsequently that these papers could not be traced."

I have discovered the papers in my personal file in office, after writing to you to-day and shall be pleased to submit them to you for your perusal at any time that you may appoint. These papers will prove to you conclusively that the statements made by me with regard to the allocation of seats on the different committees last year are absolutely correct. The original lists were given to Subhas and if you search his files I have not the least doubt that you will find them.

Yours sincerely,  
Sd. M. A. H. Ispahani.

(Continued From Previous Column)

cutta Corporation Coalition Party) he could certainly never object to nominated gentlemen getting their due share of representation in the various Committees.

Then, as regards Muslim members in the various Standing Committees, I am reliably informed that as in the past, so during this year, the Momen group, the real representatives of poor rate-payers in Calcutta, has not had a square deal from Mr. Ispahani and his friends. Attempts have been made to prejudice the entire group that elected myself as leader (1) by declaring Dr. Sadeque Hossain as a rebel after one year of his services in the party, (2) by relegating some to inferior Committees, (3) by giving some others seats here and there in good Committees dominated by four councillors of the rival group, (4) by even denying a man of Mr. Rafique's wide experience Chairmanship, while offering Chairmanship of the Services Committee to Mr. Hamoodur Rahman, a comparatively junior Councillor of one year's standing and that of an important Committee like the Works Committee to Mr. Adam Osman. I have had further information that myself, though first selected as Chairman of Services Committee II, was on second thought shunted off to the Building Committee. On the other hand Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose has made a fair and equitable distribution of seats to the representative group of Momen brothers and other experienced councillors; Messrs. Matin, Yusuf Nuruddin and Soleiman are as good, if not better, representatives of poor rate payers of Calcutta as Messrs. Ispahani, Hamdur Rahman, Siddiqui and Adam Osman—who constitute a class by themselves bent upon bossing the whole show.

Syed Badrudduja,  
19, European Asylum,  
Calcutta, June 16, '41.



Advance 2/18.6

## STANDING COMMITTEE CONTROVERSY

### ALLOCATION OF SEATS

#### Mr. Ispahani's Reply To S. Sarat Bose

Calcutta, June 16.

Mr. M. A. H. Ispahani, Deputy Mayor of the Calcutta Corporation, has addressed the following letter to Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose in reply to the latter's letter of June 14 on the controversy arising out of the formation of the various Standing Committees in the Calcutta Corporation:—

"My dear Sarat Babu,

16th June, 1941.

"I am in receipt of your letter of the 14th instant.

"I wrote to you that my letter of the 4th instant would be my last in connection with the Corporation affairs as I felt and I still feel that the continuation of correspondence between us will serve no useful purpose. As you have made an attempt to answer some of the points raised in my previous letter, I shall deal with your letter, paragraph by paragraph and as briefly as possible:

"Para 1. No Comment.

"Para 2. No Comment.

"Para 3. Again you try to evade the issue. If 32 members are entitled to four seats, then by what method of calculation are 26 members of the Bose Group entitled to not less than four seats? I am not aware that your party consists of 67 members or that you have formed a coalition with the remaining groups in the Corporation including the unattached members and thereby acquired the right to allocate seats to them. I am afraid one attempt after another to explain away the question put by me, does not really take you any further than you were on the first day.

"Para 4. As a leader who is expected to be in possession of full facts, you will agree that pleading lack of knowledge or taking shelter behind impressions is indeed a feeble defence. I repeat that we did come to a decision at my house regarding the constitution of Committees, five coalition, five Bose Group and two Hindu Mahasabha. The actual allocation of seats by Subhas and myself corroborates this statement. The Europeans were definitely excluded on the insistence of Subhas Bose and I take it, with your tacit consent.

"Para 5. In view of my reply to para 4, no comment is necessary.

"Para 6. You are again trying to beat a retreat. How are you justified in claiming four seats for your group of 26? Why not suggest or accept a proposal to allot seats to various parties on a percentage basis—seats according to numerical strength? Why only seats to the Coalition according to numerical strength and seats to the Bose and Sabha Groups according to convenience or "Zulum?"

Para 7. I repeat your reliable informant is unreliable. I must again deny your statement about this

Para 8. Notwithstanding your reply my statements are nevertheless correct for they are not the creation of my imagination but are a record of facts as told me by the two gentlemen.

Para 9. Your assumptions and allegations do not call for a reply. As a matter of fact, you are trying to do what you are accusing me of. You are trying to keep up a show of having a party when you have not the following. May I recall the case of the reappointment of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee as C. E. O? Do you remember how many members of your group obeyed your mandate? If you do not, the public of Calcutta does!

I do not claim any more for my party than what it is entitled to and I am quite prepared to sit down with the leaders of the various groups and work out the quotas of each group strictly on their numerical strength, without inflation or weightage.

This is my last letter to you. Let us not waste our time and energy and bore the public any more with repetitions.

Yours faithfully,

SD/- M A H ISPAHANI.

In a subsequent letter to Mr. Bose, Mr. Ispahani writes:—16th June 1941.

"My Dear Sarat Babu,

"I once more refer you to your letter of the 14th instant, and particularly to the following lines in paragraph 5 of the said letter:—

"I requested you twice in Indu's presence to find out the papers on which were recorded the decisions that Subhas and you had arrived at regarding the allocation of seats on the different committees and the names of the members both of you had decided to put on them, as that would throw light on the considerations which led to those decisions and I told you that I had been informed that they were with Hamdoor Rahman. You informed me

subsequently that those papers could not be traced."

"I have discovered the papers in my personal file in office, after writing to you to-day and shall be pleased to submit them to you for your perusal at any time that you may appoint. These papers will prove to you conclusively that the statements made by me with regard to the allocation of seats on the different committees last year, are absolutely correct. The original lists were given to Subhas and if you search his files I have not the least doubt that you will find them.

"Yours sincerely,

Sd/- M. A. H. Ispahani.

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INDUSTRIAL STANDARD

## CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA

### DIFFERENT STANDING COMMITTEES

#### Election Of Chairman And Deputy Chairman

Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the different Standing Committees of the Corporation for the year 1941-42 was held on Monday. Results of the election are given below.

#### SERVICE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 1

Chairman—

Mr. Debabrata Mukherji,

Deputy Chairman—

Moulavi Nooruddin Ahmed.

#### SERVICE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 2.

Chairman—

Mr. Md. Rafique,

Deputy Chairman—

Mr. Devendra Nath Mukerji.

#### BUILDING STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 1

Chairman—

Mr. Bidhu Bhushan Sarkar,

Deputy Chairman—

Khan Bahadur Moulavi Md. Solaiman

#### BUILDING COMMITTEE NO. 2

Chairman—

Sir Hari Sankar Paul,

Deputy Chairman—

Mr. A. S. Naskar.

#### BUILDING COMMITTEE NO. 3.

Chairman—

Dr. A. Ahsan,

Deputy Chairman—

Mr. Krishna Chandra Ghose.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairman—

Kaviraj Satyabrata Sen,

Deputy Chairman—

Mr. Hamoodur Rahman.

#### PUBLIC UTILITIES AND MARKET STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairman—

Mr. Amulya Chandra Mitra,

Deputy Chairman—

Mr. Bipin Behari Sadhukhan.

#### WORKS STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairman—

Mr. Abdur Rahaman Siddiqi,

Deputy Chairman—

(election postponed).

#### ESTATES AND GENERAL PURPOSES STANDING

COMMITTEE

Chairman—

Mr. Md. Israil,

Deputy Chairman—

Mr. Hriday Krishna Ghose.

#### PRIMARY EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairman—

Mr. Anandi Lal Poddar,

Deputy Chairman—

(election postponed).

#### ROADS AND BUSTEE STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairman—

Mr. Md. Mohsin Khan,

Deputy Chairman—

Mr. Dharendra Nath Ghose.

#### WATER SUPPLY STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairman—

Mr. Pravangsu Kumar Setti,

Deputy Chairman—

Sk. Basir Ali.

#### FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE

(election postponed).



Advance \$25.6.41

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CALCUTTA CORPORATION

## COALITION PARTY MEMBERS

RESIGN FROM STANDING  
COMMITTEES

### Tangle Created In Corporation

Calcutta, June 24.  
With the exception of three, all the members of the Corporation Coalition Party have, it is learnt, submitted their resignation from the various Statutory and Standing Committees of the Calcutta Corporation elected for the year 1941-42, as a protest against the manner in which seats were allotted to the Coalition party by other groups inspite of the fact that the Coalition Group have their own nomination board.

In all 44 seats were allotted to the Coalition Party in the various Committees.—A. P.

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# The Coalition Party

CALCUTTA CORPORATION

## All But 3 Resign From Committees

With the exception of three, all the members of the Corporation Coalition Party have, it is learnt, submitted their resignation from the various Statutory and Standing Committees of the Calcutta Corporation elected for the year 1941-42, as a protest against the manner in which seats were allotted to the Coalition Party by other groups in spite of the fact that the Coalition Group have their own nomination board.

In all 44 seats were allotted to the Coalition Party in the various Committees.

### STANDING COMMITTEES

#### ELECTION OF CHAIRMEN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMEN

Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the different Standing Committees of the Corporation for the year 1941-42 was held on Monday. Results of the election are given below:

#### SERVICE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 1

Chairman—  
Mr. Debabrata Mukherji,  
Deputy Chairman—  
Moulavi Nooruddin Ahmed.

#### SERVICE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 2.

Chairman—  
Mr. Md. Rafique,  
Deputy Chairman—  
Mr. Devendra Nath Mukerji.

#### BUILDING STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 1

Chairman—  
Mr. Bidhu Bhushan Sarkar,  
Deputy Chairman—  
Khan Bahadur Moulavi Md. Solaiman

#### BUILDING COMMITTEE NO. 2

Chairman—  
Sir Hari Sankar Paul,  
Deputy Chairman—  
Mr. A. S. Naskar.

#### BUILDING COMMITTEE NO. 3

Chairman—  
Dr. A. Ahsan,  
Deputy Chairman—  
Mr. Krishna Chandra Ghose.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairman—  
Kaviraj Satyabrata Sen,  
Deputy Chairman—  
Mr. Hamoodur Rahman.

#### PUBLIC UTILITIES AND MARKET STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairman—  
Mr. Amulya Chandra Mitra,  
Deputy Chairman—  
Mr. Bipin Behari Sadhukhan.

#### WORKS STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairman—  
Mr. Abdur Rahaman Siddiqi,  
Deputy Chairman—  
(election postponed.)

#### ESTATES AND GENERAL PURPOSES STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairman—  
Mr. Md. Israil,  
Deputy Chairman—  
Mr. Hriday Krishna Ghose.

#### PRIMARY EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairman—  
Mr. Anandi Lal Poddar,  
Deputy Chairman—  
(election postponed.)

#### ROADS AND BUSTEE STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairman—

A.B. Patra 25/6/41

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## CAL. MUNICIPAL BILL A Blow To Self-Governing Institutions

### STRONG PUBLIC CONDEMNATION

#### Provisions Characterised As Anti-National And Undemocratic

THE proposed Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill was strongly condemned and the Government were urged to withdraw it at a largely attended meeting which was held on Monday evening at Albert Hall. Sj. Ramananda Chatterjee presided.

The provisions of the Bill were scathingly criticised by various speakers who maintained that the arguments advanced by the Ministry for sponsoring this measure had no legs to stand upon. Under the pretext of tightening up the efficiency of the administration, they sought to bring the Corporation under their domination and undo the life work of Sir Surendranath Banerjee and the new order introduced by Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das.

If the Ministry, they emphasised, persisted with this measure, they would be making the most grievous mistake. Progressive Bengal would not tolerate it.

### ISSUES AFFECTING ALL COMMUNITIES

The following resolution was unanimously passed:—

"This public meeting of the citizens of Calcutta places on record its condemnation of the provisions of the Second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill which are not only anti-national and anti-democratic in character but are calculated to undermine the foundations of local Self-Government in the civic administration of Calcutta and would destroy the life work of late Sir Surendranath Banerjee, the Father of Indian Nationalism.

"This meeting further calls upon the Government to withdraw the Bill."

#### MISCHIEVOUS LEGISLATION

Sj. Ramananda Chatterjee said that though the meeting had been called in the name of the Hindu Mahasabha, the issues which they were going to discuss affected all communities alike. The mischief of the proposed legislation would not be confined within the limits of Calcutta but it would spell disaster for self-governing institutions all over the country. The Calcutta Corporation was the premier municipal body in the whole of India, if self-government was set at naught here it would be in danger everywhere. If this Bill was passed into law, the outward facade of self-government might remain intact, but the spirit behind it would be killed.

Proceeding Sj. Chatterjee said that they were voicing the opinion of all progressive minded people of all communities. He hoped that there should be a united protest against this Bill

blocks in their path were the Calcutta Corporation and Calcutta University. They were now taking steps to bring these institutions absolutely under their heels. So they must not take this attempt as an isolated move, but it was inspired by deep-rooted motive for the consummation of their objective.

Sj. Roy Choudhury maintained that under the Congress rule the administration of the Corporation had made an all round improvement. As long as he was in Corporation, he could say from personal knowledge that there had been no case in which the Corporation had not been able to give satisfactory reply to any complaint made by the Government. The charges which were now made by the Government were to all appearances groundless and they were only a pretext to bring the Corporation under their control.

Sj. Narendra Nath Das, M.L.A., seconding the resolution said that the charges against the Corporation came with ill grace from people whose activities in the Fatka market were the talk of the city. If the Muslim Ministry hoped to dominate two and a half crore people they were building castles in the air. If the Ministry were so anxious to root out corruption, why were they turning the blind eye to the affairs at District and Union Boards?

#### AN ANTI-NATIONAL MEASURE

Sj. N. C. Chatterjee supporting the resolution said that in September last during the meeting of the Working Committee of the Hindu Mahasabha



and the Government be asked to withdraw the measure.

They did not, said S. Chatterjee, claim that the administration of the Corporation was above reproach in every respect. If there were imperfections here and there, it did not stand to reason that the whole thing should be demolished. Such practice was never found anywhere. The military machine which Hitler had set up had proved more effective than what the democratic countries had been able to

oppose against it. It was a fact which the democracies of France and England had admitted. But on that account England had not liquidated their democratic institution and swung over to Nazism. England was trying to set her house in order maintaining her own institution. So also, President Roosevelt who had acknowledged the efficiency of the totalitarian system did not take to Hitlerism.

Defects in the working of municipal institutions had been found elsewhere but on that account democratic principle had not been given the go-by.

Even here the present form of self-government had saddled them with higher expenditure and the reputation of the Government was not higher than their predecessor, yet they did not want to go over to the old form of bureaucratic rule. The present Ministry seemed to think too much of corruption prevailing in the Corporation. But were they prepared to submit their record of work to an impartial commission? Did they believe in the heart of their hearts that they were the most efficient men and that there had been no corruption in their administration?

"What we want," said S. Chatterjee, "the principle of democracy must be maintained. Improve the present institution by all means, but do not destroy its character."

#### DEATH-KNELL TO SELF-GOVT.

Referring to the drastic provisions of the Bill, S. Chatterjee said if it was passed into law, it would mean the death knell to self-government. It was an irony that the Government proposed to lower the franchise and seemed thereby to pay a tribute to the principle of democracy. But at the same time they were out to kill the principle of democracy in the administration of the Corporation. He failed to understand the reason for the staging of this farce. The Government seemed to make a grievance that the day-to-day administration of the Corporation was influenced by the party in power. In every democratic country the principle of majority rule prevailed. There was nothing wrong in it. The only thing they were concerned with was whether it was for their good. The Government by their conduct seemed to suggest that they were out to substitute minority rule in the place of majority rule.

#### HISTORY BEHIND IT

In moving the resolution S. Sanat Kumar Roy Choudhury said that there was a history behind the proposed legislation. When the Ministry was installed in office, they proclaimed that they were out to establish Muslim Raj in Bengal. The stumbling

Veer Savarkar showed them a map of the proposed Pakistan scheme. In it Calcutta was shown as a Pakistan area. At that time they laughed at it. But now they were under no delusion. This was the real motive behind the proposed legislation. The arguments which had been advanced in support of it were merely a camouflage to hide the real intention.

S. Chatterjee characterised the Bill as a retrograde, reactionary, anti-democratic and anti-national. It was a matter of shame that when he moved for the total rejection of the measures, certain Hindu Councillors opposed him (cries of shame, shame). They understood the attitude of the Muslims, but he failed to understand the stand taken by the Hindu Councillors. The Muslim Leaguers thought that Bose-League Pact was not enough for them. They wanted legislative power to bring the whole administration under their complete control. S. Chatterjee then referred to the provisions of the Bill regarding the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer, Public Service Commission for recruitment of employees and giving of contracts. All these, S. Chatterjee said, were inspired by the motive to keep the income of the Calcutta Corporation—2½ crores of rupees—under their control.

Referring to the Public Service Commission, the speaker said that the Government by keeping the rule-making powers in their hands would be able to do whatever they liked with these appointments.

If this Bill was passed into law, self-government would be a farce. Would Bengal, he asked, tolerate it? Would they forget the memory of Sir Surendranath and Chitta Ranjan Das? He believed if all Hindus were united and resisted this piece of legislation, there was no power on earth which would be able to disregard it.

#### MEETINGS IN EVERY WARD

S. Devendra Nath Mukherji asked if the rate-payers of Calcutta would like the Corporation to be ruled by a Chief Executive Officer appointed by the Ministry or they would like to have it ruled by Councillors elected by them. He hoped that there would be meetings all over Calcutta, in every Ward where a clear mandate would be given to Councillors.

S. Padmaraj Jain also supported the resolution.

In winding up the proceedings S. Ramananda Chatterjee suggested that there would be meetings in every Ward in which a demand for withdrawing the Bill would be made. A clear mandate should also be given to the Councillors to support the demand. If they acted otherwise, they would forfeit the confidence of the electors.

Among those present were: Dr. Sarashi Lal Sarkar, Major P. Bardhan, S. Bidhu Bhusan Sarkar, S. Kiran Chandra Dutt, S. Nepal Chandra Roy, Dr. N. Sanyal, M.L.A., S. Mohitosh Roy Choudhury and S. Monoranjan Choudhury.



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MISCELLANEOUS: 10-7-40.

77. Bengal Provincial Hindu Mahasava.

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9-7-40

In a public meeting (400) held on 8-7-40 under the auspices of the Bengal provincial Hindu Mahasava at the Albert Hall and presided over by Mr. Ramananda Chatterji to protest against the 2nd Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill, the President and other speakers generally criticized the bill as retrograde, anti-

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\*Sanat Kumar Roy Chaudhury,  
Naren Das,  
N.C. Chatterji,  
Jadam Raj Jain,  
Deben Mukharji.  
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national and anti-democratic, designed by the Moslem Ministry to curb Hindu-influence in the municipal administration.

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Others present  
Ashutosh Lahiri (M.D.)  
Dharam Raj Jain,  
Dr. Sarashi Sarker,  
Bhagirath Das,  
Kiran Ch. Dutta,  
Biren Chatterji,  
Tara Nath Roy Chaudhury,  
Major F. Burdhan,  
Dr. Nalinakshaya Senyali,  
Mohitosh Roy Chaudhury,  
Nepal Roy.  
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Naren Das in course of his attacks against the Muslim Ministry remarked that instead of Moslem rule, they had established Mirzafar rule under the protection of the English



AB. Patrika 8/14/7/41

## REACTIONARY & RETROGRADE

### Calcutta Municipal Second Amendment Bill

#### CITIZENS' EMPHATIC PROTEST

#### Hindu-Muslim Committee Formed At Calcutta Meeting To Agitate Against Proposed Measure

**A**SSEMBLED in large numbers on Sunday evening at the hall of the Calcutta University Institute Muslim citizens of Calcutta, along with their Hindu brethren, registered an emphatic protest against the proposed Calcutta Municipal Second Amendment Bill.

Syed Jelaluddin Hashemy, M.L.A., who presided, characterised the provisions of the measure as highly undesirable inasmuch as they constituted a definitely retrograde measure totally destructive of the civic autonomy and freedom which the Corporation had been enjoying as a result of the Act of 1923.

A committee of Hindus and Muslims was formed at the meeting with a view to carrying on agitation against the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Act and the Calcutta Municipal Second Amendment Bill for the creation of a common political platform for the two communities and the furtherance of the Bengal National movement.

"The three main steps proposed by this bill" observed Mr. Hashemy "are :

—I. The appointment of the Chief Executive Officer by the Provincial Government, II. The setting up of a Service Commission to select appointments to higher posts under the Corporation and, III. The assumption of greater powers of control by the Provincial Government in cases of default or abuse of powers by the Corporation.

"The Bill was circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon and I am in possession of views expressed by more or less 44 different organisations of repute. A large majority of these organisations excepting a few conducted by Europeans is opposed to the principle of the Bill. Among the organisations views expressed by the Corporation of Calcutta, Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta Trades Association, Marwari Chamber of Commerce, Howrah Municipality, Bengal Land Holders' Association, British Indian Association, Marwari Association are worth mentioning.

#### A RETROGRADE MEASURE

"They have uniformly characterised the provisions of the Bill as highly undesirable inasmuch as they constitute a definitely retrograde measure totally destructive of the Civic autonomy and freedom which the Corporation has been enjoying as a result of the Act of 1923.

"They maintain and very rightly that the provisions, if enacted, are bound to lead to serious misuse or abuse of powers by the Officers of the Government to whom such powers are proposed to be transferred and are wholly uncalled for, having regard to the fact that under the law, as it now stands, there is ample scope for the Government Control over the activities of the Corporation, if and when such Control is needed.

"The reasoning given in the statement of objects and reasons for the amendment proposed by the said clauses is vague and most unconvincing, and there is no occasion for any such interference by the Government with the Civic administration of the city, as is suggested by the said clauses."

"In the Assembly" Mr. Hashemy mention, "I recorded my emphatic protest against the Bill which is

supply, drainage, condition of roads, grants to hospitals and charitable institutions the improvement had been manifest and the difference between the two administrations, the present and its predecessor, had been marked.

For the last 17 years the same gentleman was being appointed the Chief Executive Officer and the Government had been sanctioning their approval to the appointment. What reason now led them to take into their hands the power of appointing the C. E. O. ?

If the Corporation had committed mistakes, and no human organisation was above error, let the Government point it out to the city fathers. But instead of doing that they were bringing out a bill which, if enacted, would destroy the little civic right which the citizens enjoyed. In these circumstances people could be scarcely blamed if they suspected the motive of the Government in introducing such a reactionary measure.

#### BENGAL MUSLIMS' POSITION

The Bengalee Mussalmans, said Syed Habibur Rahman, were nowhere in the Calcutta Corporation although the city of Calcutta was their own metropolis in their own province of Bengal. Under the system of joint electorate Bengalee Muslim Councillors were so long being elected in the majority of Muslim seats on the Corporation, as they secured vote not only from Bengalee Muslims and Hindus but also from non-Bengalee Hindus and Muslims. But under the present system of separate electorate, introduced by the Bengal Ministry, Bengalee Muslims did not get any votes from the Bengalee and non-Bengalee Hindus as before. Non-Bengalee Mussalmans too did not vote Bengalee Muslims.

Non-Bengali-ridden Muslim League selected their fellow non-Bengalee Muslims to all Muslim Corporation Constituencies rejecting nominations of Bengal Muslims set up by the district Muslim League at Calcutta. The Bengalee Muslims had no place in the Calcutta Corporation. Mr. Huq, his Cabinet and his Coalition party members, although being themselves Bengalee Muslims, had enacted the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Act sacrificing the Bengalee Muslims at the altar of the up-country Mussalmans.

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M. 559/60



to Chandpur. This area forms a part of the same low-lying pocket which includes the North Begunganj and Sonaimuri area of the Noakhali district, the conditions here are the same as in Noakhali. All crops, namely, 'aus', jute and 'aman' have been totally destroyed and there is no prospect of transplantation of the winter paddy. Gratuitous relief will have to be given on a systematic basis in this area till the next 'aus' is harvested. The northern part of the sub-division of Brahmanberia has also been seriously affected by flood. The damage to the jute crop has been severe. At Chandpur we discussed the situation with the Commissioner, Mr. O. M. Martin, C.I.E., I.C.S., the District Magistrate, the Sub-Divisional Officer and the non-official representatives of the various parts of the affected areas in Tippera including members of the Legislature. So far Government have given Rs. 4 lakhs by way of agricultural loan and Rs. 36,000 for gratuitous relief and Rs. 25,000 for organising test relief work in the shape of paddy husking.

#### IN MYMENSINGH

In the district of Mymensingh the subdivisions of Sadar North, Sadar South, Tangail and Jamalpur, the jute crop has suffered seriously due to excessive rains and it is apprehended that the loss will be about 50 per cent of the already restricted area. Fortunately in these subdivisions the 'aus' crop is expected to be very good and the 'aman' crop to be normal. The situation in the Kishoregunj the Netrokona subdivisions however gives serious cause for anxiety. The entire hati area in the Kishoregunj subdivision has lost nearly 12 annas of the oro crop and practically whole of the deep water paddy. This area suffers from excessive accumulation of water most every year. The staying power of the people is therefore small and will be necessary to continue relief in this area till the next Boro crop is harvested. Due to excessive accumulation of water on the field in the Netrokona subdivision excepting Kallar thana there is no prospect of transplantation of winter paddy. Up till now Government have sanctioned Rs. 8,50,000 for agricultural loan, Rs. 16,000 for test relief work and Rs. 1,000 for gratuitous relief. Lack of rural credit has accentuated the difficulties of the situation greatly and distribution of relief is by no means easy because of the lack of communi-

at the rate of one 'poa' of rice per head. This is something like a drop of water in the desert.

The Secretary accompanied by the local workers visited a large number of villages in these Unions. No paddy can be found in the vast fields which have been flooded due to the continued and torrential showers of rain during the cyclone and a few days thereafter. Fields in the villages which are filled up with paddy plants in this season of the year now present an appearance of vast sheet of water. Cultivators have no lands to grow paddy nor have they any standing paddy plants in the fields to harvest and the landless labourers have no work to do. The sufferers of these areas are in need of help till the next monsoon. Some of the sufferers who have got lands have been given agricultural loan by the Government, but the amount of loan per debtor does not exceed Rs. 4/- or 5/- in majority of their cases. Cattle are dying for want of fodder and the cultivators finding it difficult to keep their livestock alive have been selling them to butchers at an abnormally low price. Beef is being sold in the local markets at 6 pies or one anna per seer.

After completing the preliminary relief work of these three Unions S. J. Guha Roy went to the affected villages lying on the coastal line of the Meghna river within Lakshmipur P.S. S. J. Benode Behari Sen a leading Congress worker of the district with the help and co-operation of a number of local workers of both the communities has commenced the relief work by distributing rice among the distressed people. S. J. Guha Roy insisted Rupachora, Madura, Pakurda, Sreeballavpur and other villages of the coastal area and personally supervised the distribution work in two centres. In this area 3200 persons have been supplied one meal only at the rate of one 'poa' per head.

Besides the distribution of rice a few middle class Bhadrakoke families have also been given relief in the form of cash money.

S. J. Guha Roy will be starting again for the other centres. He appeals on behalf of his Committee for adequate contribution from the generous public.

#### PABNA SATSANG HELP

Pratiratik S. J. Ananta Kumar Chatterjee and S. J. Rajendra Nath Mazumdar, representatives of Pabna Satsang with other workers made on survey of the different distressed areas of Noakhali.

cation in the Netrokona and Kishoregunj subdivisions of Mymensingh.

#### REBUILDING OF HOUSES

Destruction of houses is the worst in Bhola and some portions of Patuakhali and a small area in the Sadar Subdivisions of the Bakarganj district besides heavy loss of life and of cattle. The tidal waves passed over some Char areas causing considerable damage to life and property. It is, however, a redeeming feature that in some parts of the affected area there is still hope of 'aus' paddy and also of transplantation of 'aman' unlike low-lying lands of Noakhali and certain portions of Tippera.

Up till now Government have sanctioned Rs. 15,45,000 for agricultural loans and Rs. 3,60,000 for purchase of seed. Of this over Rs. 7 lakhs have been spent in Bhola alone.

Rebuilding of houses are proceeding on the whole satisfactorily and Government are trying through agricultural loan and distribution of seeds to



...alanced to take away the rights and powers of the Corporation even in internal management and appointment of Officers.

"The proposed amendment empowering the Provincial Government to suspend any resolution of the Corporation or of any Standing Committee, or of Sub-Committee, or of Special Committee is highly reactionary. Still more reactionary and vague is the reason of such suspension. It will be entirely left to the whim or party-spirit of the particular Minister-in-Charge of the portfolio.

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENT

"Still more retrograde is the amendment proposed, which authorises the Provincial Government to supersede 'any department' of the Corporation for 'incompetence' and the most dangerous portion is the proposal for making the Provincial Government, Sole — Judge of such incompetence and its decision being final.

"Another amendment proposed (Sec. 19B) to supersede the Corporation is highly reactionary as it places the Corporation completely at the feet of the Minister-in-Charge and the position of the elected councillors would be no better than the menial servants to be dismissed at the sweet will of his Master.

"The proposed section 51A, is equally reactionary. It deprives the Corporation of all power to appoint its own servants and leaves such power to a small body of persons. This reduces the premier Self-Governing Institution of Bengal to a mere farce.

"The proposed proviso to section 66A, empowering the Provincial Government to sanction or reject any estimate over two and a half lakhs of rupees cripples the power of the Corporation to an inordinate extent.

#### MAYOR'S VIEW

Mr. Phanindra Nath Brahma, Mayor of Calcutta, regarded the Calcutta Municipal Second Amendment Bill as an absolutely uncalled for measure. One of the principal clauses of the bill provided for the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation by the Provincial Government. The Government could by no means argue that the administration of the city's affairs under the present Chief Executive Officer had deteriorated. Well-informed citizens knew what improvements had been made since the Corporation came into the hands of the people. In every sphere, in the field of free primary education, water

Bengalee Muslim not merely Muslim seats on the Calcutta Corporation but from its services. This Act had been passed not by the demand of the Bengalee Muslims of Calcutta or this province but by a coterie of non-Bengalee Mussalmans. The interests of the Bengalee Mussalmans had not only been betrayed but also trampled by Mr. Huq, his Cabinet and the members of the Legislature who supported him.

#### SEPARATE ELECTORATE

Separate electorate, therefore, meant exclusion of Bengalee Muslims from the Corporation altogether. Over and above this, the Second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill, offspring of its predecessor, if enacted into law, would ensure a mutual arrangement for distribution of 33 per cent of Corporation Muslim services among non-Bengalee Mussalmans. That was a challenge thrown out to Bengalee Mussalmans. Would the Bengalee Muslims, Mr. Rahaman enquired, surrender or accept the challenge? The proper reply to the challenge according to the speaker, would be the intensification of the Bengalee National movement and Bengalee National consolidation. Mr. Rahman on behalf of the Mussalmans of Bengal called upon the Ministry to abandon the Second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill and restore without delay the system of joint electorate.

Maulvi Shamsul Huq, Councillor, Calcutta Corporation, expressed the view that in case the bill were passed it would in no way help the poor rate-payers. He reiterated his opposition to the provisions of the bill.

Supporting the idea of carrying on the Bengalee National movement Mr. J. C. Gupta held that the movement would produce a feeling of amity between the two communities. Mr. Gupta had every sympathy with the movement and he promised it his assistance in every possible way.

Maulavi Abdul Jalil Ahmed, Mr. B. C. Bhattacharya and S. J. Dulal Chandra Mitra also addressed the gathering.

The committee which was formed at the meeting to carry on agitation against the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Act and the Calcutta Municipal Second Amendment Bill consist of the following members with power to co-opt. Syed Jelaluddin Hashemy, Mr. J. C. Gupta, Maulvi Shamsul Huq, Syed Habibur Rahman, Mr. Suresh Chandra Majumder, Mr. B. C. Bhattacharya and S. J. Dulal Chandra Mitra.



M-509/41  
96  
MISCELLANEOUS: 15-7-41.

107. The second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill.

M.R. 26088  
14-7-41

In a meeting (100) held at the Calcutta University Institute on 13-7-41 under the presidency of Sayed Jalaluddin Hashemy M.L.A. the speakers\* recorded a protest against the Bill and demanded its withdrawal. They narrated the deplorable position of the Bengalee Muslims in the Corporation at the hands of the non-Bengalee Muslims who obtained the upper hand as a result of the separate Electorate system which prevented the joining of the Hindus and the Muslims of the Province to safeguard their interests against non-Bengalee and advocated a common Hindu-Muslim platform for the achievement of Bengalee Nationalism. The Bengal Ministry was criticised for showing undue sympathy to the non-Bengalee Muslims. Referring to the Dacca riots, they said that the Communal Award was the root of all evils.

Bankim Ch. Bhattacharjee remarked that it was indeed a common thing for the conquerors to take away the national feelings and culture of the vanquished and to create dissensions. Moulavi Abdul Jalil Ahmed observed that the Britishers took advantage of the differences between the communities in India in promulgating the pernicious communal award and accused the British Administration of hampering the cause of nationalism in India. He added that while the League-Government raised a false cry of nationalism, the British wanted the riots at Dacca to continue. Phanindra Nath Brahma stated that the Government had ruined many Zemindars of the province, by forcibly realising revenues in times of their distress.

\*\*  
A provisional Committee was formed to carry on the agitation against the Bill.

\*\*\*J.C. Gupta, Shamsul Huq,  
Dulal Ch. Mitra, Jalaluddin Hashemy,  
Suresh Ch. Hazumdar, Bankim Ch. Bhattacharji,  
Habibur Rahman.



A.B. Patilka 8 17/7/41 94  
M. 508/60

## DEPUTY MAYOR RESIGNS

### Sequel To A Stormy Meeting Of The Corporation

#### PROTEST AGAINST AN "ASPERSION"

#### All Over The Consideration Of Tenders For Supply Of Khaddar Uniforms

THE stormy sitting which the Calcutta Corporation went through on Wednesday night had an amazing sequel when Mr. M. A. H. Ispahani handed over to the Mayor what he termed his letter of resignation from the office of the Deputy Mayor.

Mr. Ispahani resented a remark made about him by Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherjee, sought unsuccessfully to make a statement to the House and—when the meeting was breaking up—delivered his note to the Mayor.

The Councillors were deliberating on the adoption or otherwise of a motion for closure of the debate over the consideration of various tenders for supply of khaddar uniforms for the employees of the Corporation. The Mayor was counting the votes when the Deputy Mayor too commenced to count.

"The Deputy Mayor cannot trust your counting alone, Mr. Mayor. That is why he is counting himself", exclaimed Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherjee.

"This is an aspersion, I protest against it", the Deputy Mayor retorted.

Rising on his legs Mr. Abdur Rahman Siddiqi, leader of the Muslim League Party, suggested that Mr. Mukherjee should withdraw the remark.

Mr. Mukherjee was agreeable to withdraw the remark provided the Mayor had asked Mr. Ispahani to join him in the counting of votes on the present occasion.

Admitting that he did not ask Mr. Ispahani to do so specifically on this occasion the Mayor, however, stated that generally the Deputy Mayor counted votes along with him as he had asked him to do from time to time to ensure correct counting.

Mr. Ispahani insisted on making a statement to the House which, however, did not materialise owing to the expiry of the scheduled hour.

"I have tendered resignation", Mr. Ispahani told the press, because I did not get that protection I was entitled to from the chair against insults showered by some members of the Corporation, in particular, Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherjee."

The incident happened when the Corporation was considering the various tenders for the supply and delivery of Khaddar uniforms for their employees.

The Estates and General Purposes Standing Committee recommended that the tenders totalling to nearly Rs 30,000 be distributed among (1) All-India Spinners' Association, (2) Bengal Khadi Bhandar, (3) Vidyasram, (4) Khadi Mandal, (5) Shilpasram and (6) Prabartak Sangha Kutir Silpa.

Mr. Poin Behari Mullick moved an amendment seeking to add two other tenderers, namely, Messrs. Hafizuddin and Ali Molla and Ram Kanai Jamini Ranjan Paul.

Mr. Abdur Rahman Siddiqi supporting Mr. Mullick's amendment said that Japanese Khaddars are washed and stamped over again by the All-India Spinners' Association."

#### PROTEST AGAINST MR. SIDDIQI'S REMARK

Cries of 'question' from members belonging to the Hindu Mahasabha and Bose groups followed Mr. Siddiqi's statement. He was making the statement, Mr. Siddiqi asserted, with the fullest sense of responsibility. He claimed to know of the Khaddar movement better than many champions of the nationalism. His community was the weaving community and not the Hindu community and, therefore, he claimed that he understood Khaddar better than most of these high-sounding politicians.

not agree with the observation the Mayor that they were discussing a very simple matter. The question had been made very complicated by the ex-Mayor by his charge which was absolutely baseless.

The Mayor put the closure motion to vote and proceeded to count the votings. The Deputy Mayor, Mr. Ispahani, was also on his legs and was counting the votes.

Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherjee remarked: The Deputy Mayor can not trust your counting alone, Mr. Mayor. That is why he is counting himself.

The Deputy Mayor took exception to the remark and insisted that Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherji should withdraw that remark.

Mr. Abdur Rahman Siddiqi stated that Mr. Mukherji did the same thing on another occasion last week about the Deputy Mayor. He appealed to the Mayor to take action.

Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherji: Is it, Mr. Mayor, regular for the Deputy Mayor to get up and count the votings along with the Mayor?

#### THE MAYOR'S REPLY

The Mayor replied that generally Mr. Ispahani counted votes along with him to ensure correct counting of votes. Although the Mayor had not specifically asked the Deputy Mayor to count the votes on this occasion he had asked him to do the same from time to time. Sometimes when they differed in their counting they counted again till their countings agreed.

Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherji: If you have asked him on this occasion I am prepared to withdraw. Otherwise, I respectfully submit, I can not; because Mr. Ispahani's counting was unparliamentary.

Mr. Abdur Rahman Siddiqi again appealed to the Mayor to ask Mukherji to withdraw the remark in view of the explanation given by the Mayor that he had sometimes asked him to assist him which justified the Deputy Mayor counting the votes. Mr. Siddiqi strongly objected to the suggestion that the Deputy Mayor had no confidence in the Mayor's counting of votes and that was why he was counting himself.

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee: The Deputy Mayor can take care of himself.

Mr. Ispahani asked the Mayor if he would be given an opportunity to make a statement before the House this evening. He was not prepared to take the view that the Mayor had taken about Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherji's statement about himself. He thought he owed an explanation to the House and if he was right Mr. Mukherji also owed a duty to the House as an honourable gentleman to withdraw his remark.

The Mayor, Mr. P. Brahma, said that the Deputy Mayor was very uneasy over the statement of Mr. Mukherji and he had no confidence in him.



Quand a Bazar 187 98

M 569/60

গত মঙ্গলবার কলিকাতা কংগ্রেসের  
সভায় কংগ্রেসের কোয়ালিশন দলের নেতা মিঃ  
আবদুর রহমান সিদ্দিকী পদোচিত গান্ধীজী  
বিস্মৃত হইয়া এবং শালীনতার মাত্রা লঙ্ঘন  
করিয়া যেভাবে নিখিল ভারত কাউন্সিল সঙ্ঘকে  
আক্রমণ করিয়াছেন তাহাতে আমরা কোয়ালিশন  
দলের জন্য লজ্জাবোধ করিতেছি। 'খন্দরের  
টেম্ভারদাতার নামের তালিকা হইতে একটি  
মুসলমান খন্দরের নাম অপসৃত হওয়া' তিনি  
নিদারপণ মুসলিম প্রতীতির পরিচয় দিবার জন্য  
ক্ষেত্র প্রকাশ্য করিতে পারেন। কিন্তু  
সে জন্য এক্ষণে জনসাধারণের আস্থা-  
ভাজন একটি প্রতিনিধিত্ব নমে মিথ্যা কলঙ্ক  
আরোপ করিবার কোনই হেতু ছিল না। দুই  
বৎসর ধরিয়া তিনি খন্দর পরিধান করিয়া  
ছিলেন। ইহাতে বোঝা যায়, সিদ্দিকী সাহেব  
অনেক ঘাট ঘুরিয়া লীগে আসিয়াছেন এবং  
রাজনীতির হাটে তিনি অভিজ্ঞ ব্যক্তি। তার উপর  
যদি বিবেচনা করা যায়-যে, সেই 'খন্দর যুগেও'  
নিখিল ভারত কাউন্সিল সঙ্ঘ জাপানী খন্দরের  
উপর নিজেদের ছাপ মারিয়া চালাইয়া দেয়  
জানিয়াও তিনি তাহা পরিধান করিতেন, তাহা  
হইলে রাজনীতি ক্ষেত্রে তাহার উজ্জ্বল  
ভবিষ্যতের কারণ সম্বন্ধে আর সন্দেহ থাকে  
না। নাইলে সুদূর সিন্ধু প্রদেশ হইতে  
বাংলায় আসিয়া বাংলাদেশে মুসলমানদের  
মতের মধ্যে আনা করজনের দ্বারা সম্ভব হয়?  
সে যাহা হউক, একটি প্রধান দলের দলপতির  
পক্ষে বাকের যে সংঘম, আচরণের যে গান্ধীজী  
এবং যে দায়িত্বজ্ঞান থাকা আবশ্যিক, তাহা তাহার  
নাই। নিখিল ভারত কাউন্সিল সঙ্ঘের বিরুদ্ধে  
যে গুরুতর অভিযোগ সিদ্দিকী সাহেব করি-  
য়াছেন, আমরা আশা করি, তিনি সুস্থ অবস্থায়  
তাহার জন্য যথারীতি দ্রুতি স্বীকার করিবেন।

The paragraph contains  
strong criticism and personal  
attack on Mr. Abdu Rahman  
Siddiqui for the alleged aspersions  
cast by him on the All  
India Spinners' Association  
in regard to the question  
of supply of khaddar to the  
Corporation.

Shurt  
22/7

Shurt  
22/7



99

M. 509/40

MISCELLANEOUS: 12-7-41.

137. Calcutta Corporation.

O.R. 26827  
19-7-41

It is reported that the Muslim League  
Municipal Association is trying to bring about a  
settlement between Mr. Ishchani and Mr. Naresh Nath  
Mukherjee by the withdrawal of the remarks of the  
latter and the resignation letter of the former.  
In the event of their efforts proving futile the  
Muslim Councillors may resign in a body and start  
a no Corporation tax campaign.

CORRIGENDUM:-

In para. 131 dated 18-7-41 please read  
"were seized" at the end.

SG.



H. Standard 21.7.41

100

MS09/WW

## CITIZENS' OPPOSITION TO 'BLACK BILL'

### Design To Make Corporation A Govt. Department

### UNHOLY DRIVE TO ROB THE CITY OF ITS MANTLE OF FREEDOM

### Pernicious Effect Of Vicious Award In Bengal

**A**N APPEAL to the citizens of Calcutta to unite in offering a determined resistance to the Calcutta Municipal Second Amendment Bill was made at a largely-attended public meeting held at Sraddhananda Park on Sunday afternoon. Sir Manmatha Nath Mookerjee, President, Bengal Provincial Hindu Mahasabha,

In addressing the meeting S. N. C. Chatterjee said that the stage was being set by the communal leaders in order to create an atmosphere favourable for the reception of this Black Bill. Much against their wishes the Bengali Muslim Councillors had been forced to resign their seats on the Standing Committees. On the top of that the melodramatic action of Mr. M. A. H. Ispahani in resigning his Deputy Mayorship was calculated to create an impression that Muslim interests demanded the enactment of this Bill. Some of the Muslim Councillors told him that they refused to resign their seats on the Standing Committees unless the Deputy Mayor would resign and that his resignation had been practically decided upon. The little incident in the Corporation meeting was ingeniously utilized and the public were solemnly told that the Mayor's default forced this resignation. He can publicly testify to the fact that the Mayor and the House had always treated the Deputy Mayor with the utmost consideration.

#### A WARNING

S. Chatterjee said that this Bill would be prejudicial to the interest of the entire Bengali race. It would be harmful to the real interests of the communities—Hindu and Muslim. To curb the autonomy and to destroy the freedom of this the greatest City in India would do no good to any lover of democracy or champion of freedom.

From his personal experience of the actual working of the First Calcutta Municipal Amendment Act, he would say that it had done no harm to the Bengali Mussalmans. He wanted to tell the citizens of Calcutta that they should not be misled by interested propaganda or by the stunts of the Muslim Group in the Corporation who had been generously treated in the allocation of seats on the Standing Committees. In a House of 22 Muslim Councillors and 2 Muslim Aldermen and 2 Muslim Councillors, the total strength was about 25.

The cry might now be raised by the Pakistanist politicians that "Islam was in danger." That was why the Muslim leader was standing up in the Corporation and saying that the majority party had unfairly treated the Muslim section. It is an absolutely unfounded charge. He confidently maintained that neither Srijut Sarat Chandra Bose nor he acted in any way unfairly. They had prevented the victimization of the Bengali Mussalmans in the Corporation. 49 seats out of the total 150 seats on the different committees had been given to the Muslim Councillors. They had chairmanships of 5 Standing Committees and deputy-chairmanships in 4 Committees. They had no intention to dictate or dominate.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUE

On principle the speaker wanted to raise this question. Should not Calcutta be treated as an autonomous City State? They questioned the moral and the constitutional right of the representatives of rural Bengal to tamper with the constitution of the City of Calcutta. Democracy would be a mockery unless the citizens of the City were permitted to fashion their own constitution. What right had the artificial Muslim majority in the Bengal Legislature to alter the system of the Government of the City which was international in character and was predominantly non-Muslim?

He wanted to sound a note of warning to Mr. Fazlul Huq and his compatriots. Their determination to rush through this measure in the teeth of opposition of the Hindu community and of an appreciable section of the Bengali Mussalmans would strengthen the hands of those who wanted to exploit the City for their own purposes and who wanted cleavage between man and man and between community and community. He would ask the sponsors and supporters of this Black Bill to pause and ponder. Would they destroy this citadel of nationalism? Would they make self-governing Corporation on a mere department of the Bengal Government? Would they drive the Hindu community to despair and desperation? That was the way to civil war and anarchy.

#### PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

Sir Manmathanath Mookerjee said that the Calcutta Municipal Second Amendment Bill, if enacted into law, would rob the city of its mantle of freedom. The rate-payers would doubt retain their right to elect their representatives to the Corporation but in the administration of the affairs of the Corporation these representatives would have no voice.



M-509/W

101

MISCELLANEOUS: 22-7-41.

158. B.P. Hindu Mahasabha.  
M.R. 26980 In a public meeting (300) held at Sradhanan-  
21-7-41. da Park under the auspices of the Mahasabha on  
20-7-41 with Sir M.N. Mukherji in the chair, the  
speakers protested against the second Calcutta Municipi-

-----	pal Amendment Bill
***Sir M.N. Mukherji,	alleging that the
N.C. Chatterji, Bar-at-law,	motive of the Moslem
Deben Mukherji,	League Ministry in
Phani Brohmo (Mayor)	sponsoring the Bill
Hari Ch. Ghosh,	was to capture the
Others present.	Calcutta Corporation
Jshutosh Lahiri (E.D.)	in order to provide
Manindra Mitter,	their supporters with
Major P. Burdhan,	jobs and to lay their
Monorangan Roy Chaudhury.	hands on its revenue of
-----	5 crores of rupees.

They also wanted to take away from the representa-  
tives of the rate payers the power of appointing the  
Chief Executive Officer and other high officers.  
75% of the population of Calcutta were Hindus and

they paid 80% of the Corporation Taxes. If the Bill  
would be passed into law, their representatives  
would be mere figure heads being shorn of all powers  
and they would lose all their rights and privileges.  
So they had better not send their representatives  
and pay their taxes to the Corporation after the  
enactment of the Bill into law. The resignation of  
the Moslem Councillors was a stage-managed show pre-  
arranged by the big guns of the Moslem League to  
ensure the safe passage of the Bill through the  
legislature and cut at the root of self-Government  
in Bengal by undoing the Calcutta Municipal Act.

N.C. Chatterji further observed that Calcutta  
was an international city and, as such, the provincial  
Legislature had no right to make laws to interfere  
with its Civic administration.

Sir M.N. Mukherji also stated that the  
Communal Award was the root of all evils. By virtue  
of it, the Ministry were making laws none of which  
proved salutary either to the Hindus or to the Moslems.  
He complained that in some districts particularly in  
Maldah and Dinajpur Hindus were deprived of the right  
of taking processions to immerse the images which  
remained unimmersed. The Premier to whom he had made  
a reference in March for a final settlement of the  
"music before Mosque" question has not replied yet.  
He sounded a note of warning to the Ministry that if  
in spite of their protests, the Bill would be made into  
law, the result would not be good and steps would be  
taken to counteract it.



M 509/W

102

MISCELLANEOUS: 25-7-41.

177. Bengal Provincial Hindu Mahasabha.

\*

M.R. 27908  
25-7-41

On 23-7-41 the Mahasabha held a meeting (100) at Harish Park. Ashutosh Lahiri presided. The speakers criticized the Second Calcutta Municipal ... Amendment Bill in much the same way as they have

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\*Prof. Hari Ch. Ghose,  
Manindra Mitter,  
Jyotirmoy Ghosal,  
Gunapathi Chakravarti  
and the President.  
-----

previously done. They also con-  
demned the Secondary Education  
Bill as a measure which aimed  
at curbing the higher education  
of the Hindus. Dr. Jenkins was  
criticized as an agent of  
British Imperialism, who wanted

to arrest the growth of education among the people.  
The Mahasabha fought against these two bills, and the  
speakers appealed for support to this organization  
in its efforts to render these bills inoperative.

Manindra Mitter said that just as the  
Khalsa Army was whipped into a powerful force by  
the Moghul tyranny so the Hindu national conscious-  
ness developed by its conflict with the Government.  
Jyotirmoy Ghosal sarcastically remarked that he had  
witnessed the commendable action of the popular  
Government in Dacca. The Ministers behaved like in-  
toxicated men and were grateful to their white  
masters for a few bones of official favour. The  
Hindus had forgotten their Lord who wielded the  
fatal wheel (called Sudharsan Chakra). Bengal had no  
more use for non-violence. Her martyr sons would pre-  
vent these bills from being passed into law.

(Note:- The speeches are under examination).



2 of

scheme of Mr. Jinnah, the Communal Award and the anti Hindu policy of the Bengal Ministry. He remarked that all these demons could not be subdued by the doctrine of Non-violence. So they must adopt the new 'doctrine of resistance'. Bengal today was the same as in the days of the departed martyrs. Blood still flowed in the veins of the Bengalis and they could not afford to lose their rights in citizenship and education. They will sacrifice their lives in thousands to oppose the Pakistan scheme. The Ministry waited to take control of Corporation only because they wanted to loot the Corporation revenue to provide their relations. The British Statesmen who declared that they were fighting for democracy were anxious to take away the democracy and freedom from the Corporation. The Britishers were directing the ministers.

President urged for the withdrawal of the Communal Award. He exhorted the Hindu Youths of Bengal to centralise, organise and generalise their organised strength.

BM



M-509/41

104

MISCELLANEOUS. 26.7.'41.

MR.28106  
26.7. 41

185. Bengal Provincial Hindu Mahasava. -Agitation  
against the 2nd Calcutta Municipal Amendment  
Bill and Secondary Education Bill.

In a meeting (300) held on 24.7.'41, at Wellington Square, under the auspices of the Mahasava with ex-detenu Dipin Behari Genguli in the chair, the speakers\* recorded a strong protest

\*President

Sanat Kumar Roy Choudhury,  
Manoj Sarbadhikari,  
Ashutosh Lahiri,  
Jyotirmoy Ghosal,  
Mr. N.C. Chatterji,  
Krishna Gorai,  
one name unknown  
old man of Ward II

\*others present

Major P. Bardhan,  
Dr. Broje Banerji,  
Monoranjan Choudhuri,  
Debesh Ghosh,  
Manindra Nath Mittra.

against the Bills in the usual strain and bitterly criticised the Ministry and asked the people to unite and offer all resistance. Sanat Roy Choudhury observed that in order to put pressure on the ministers, who are puppets in the hands of their British Masters. They must embarrass the latter by withdrawing their money from all Government Banks and Postal Savings Banks. Ashutosh Lahiri stated that if the Bills were passed into law the Bengal Provincial Hindu Mahasava could certainly devise some ways and means for frustrating their operations and for tackling

the situation which might arise.

Jyotirmoy Ghosal remarked that the Ministry had drunk the wine of the Communal Award and therefore earned the good wishes of the British and behaved like hungry pet dogs running for a piece of meat. He denounced Pakistan and advocated "Akhanda Bangla". The Hindus had forgotten the force of the preachings of Sri Krishna and the worship of Shiva - the god of destruction and also of goddess Kali who once said to her devotees "I am hungry - I want blood". So they lost their power and strength. He appealed to them to rise up and regain the same.

N.C. Chatterji deplored the Pakistan

BM



Hindus and urged the Hindus to take united and effective steps to undo the Bills.

\*\*\*Speaker

Prof. Hari Charan Ghose,  
Bhagerrath Ch. Das,  
Banku Bohari Ghose,  
Jyotirmoy Ghosal,  
Jnan Kumar Chatterji,  
Narendra Nath Chaudhury,  
Bata Krishna Banerji.

Prof. Hari Charan Ghosh added that British Imperialism was behind these bills in order to curb the influence of the Hindus in speaking education among the masses.

Banku Behari Ghosh urged the Hindus to finance the University and see that Isphahani did not rule the Calcutta Corporation to exploit Bengali Moslems.

Bhagirath Chandra Das urged non-co-operation with the Government if the bills were passed.

Jyotirmoy Ghose observed that in Dacca district Moslems had been encouraged to destroy the Hindu houses. He regretted that the Hindus had forgotten 'Krishna' and 'Sakti' and asked them to remember the words of Rana Sangha that he was hungry and wanted blood to appease his hunger. He also said that Isphahanis (non-Bengali Moslems) had been exploiting Bengali Moslems.

Sanat Kumar Roy Chaudhury, president, urged the Hindus to withdraw their money from the European firms in order to press them to urge the Ministry to withdraw the Bills.

\*

In another public meeting (200) of the Mahasab held at Sham Park on 26-7-41, S.N. Banerji presiding, the speakers also indulged in the usual intemperate

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\*Dr. Bhupendra Nath Bose,  
Kshitish Ch. Chakravarti,  
Debendra Nath Mukherji,  
Nirmal Chandra Chatterji,  
Jnan Kumar Chatterji,  
Prof. Hari Ch. Ghose,  
Jyotirmoy Ghosal,  
Manmatha Nath Sen,  
S.N. Banerji  
(Sailendranath).  
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criticism of the Bengal Ministry for having sponsored the "unjust immoral and repressive" Bills held British Imperialism directly responsible. They made a plea for strong agitation to frustrate the measures and for Hindu unity and consolidation for this purpose. Nirmal Chandra Chatterji describing the Dacca riots, the looting of Hindu

houses and the present day Pakistan mentality, enquired if the youths who once ventured to crush British Imperialism, should remain silent through fear of the communalists. Jyotirmoy Ghosal said the youths who hung at the gallows must be awakened and should not remain depressed. They were still alive and could set the matter right by holding the Ministers by the tuft of hair on their heads.

Debendra Nath Mukherji said that the Hindus would cause such a terrific storm if the Bills were passed that Government would become embarrassed.

The President said that they would not allow the Ministers to carry on their work peacefully.



193. 509/41

106

MISCELLANEOUS: 28-7-41.

193. Bengal Provincial Hindu Mahasava.  
agitation against the 2nd Calcutta Municipal  
Amendment Bill and the Secondary Education Bill.

M.R. 28104  
26-7-41

A meeting (600) to protest against the  
two Bills was held at Beadon Square on 25-7-41

*Narendra Nath Chaudhury,	under the auspices of
Prof. Haricharan Ghose,	the Mahasabha. Sanat
Bhagirath Chandra Das,	Kumar Roy Chaudhury
Sanat Kumar Roy Chaudhury,	presided. He and other
Ashutosh Lahiri,	*speakers spoke condemn-
Bakubehari Ghosh,	ing the bills brought
Jyotirmoy Ghosal,	in by the Communal
Bata Krishna Banerjee,	Ministry in order to
Manindra Nath Mitra.	destroy the powers and
	the civilization of the



M. 509/41

104

MISCELLANEOUS: 29-7-41.

199. Bengal Provincial Hindu Mahasabha-Agitation  
against the 2nd Calcutta Corporation Amendment  
Bill and the Secondary Education Bill.

M.R. 28330  
28-7-41

A meeting (300-) was organized at the  
Deshapriya Park by the Hindu Mahasabha on 27-7-41  
under the presidentship of Nirmal Chandra Chatterji,  
Bar-at-law. The speakers\*criticized the Bills as before

----- as a most reactionary  
\*President, measures Dr. Charu Chandra  
Ganapati Chakravartti, Chatterji appealed to the  
Rai Bahadur Taraknath Roy, Governor to withhold his  
Dr. Charoo Chatterji, assent to the Bills.  
Debendranath Mukherji, Nirmal Ch. Chatterji charged  
Prof. Haricharan Ghosh, the Ministry with oppress-  
Jyotirmoy Ghosal. ing the Hindus, exhorted the  
----- public to wage a relentless  
fight against all anti-Hindu and anti-national forces,  
and asked the Hon'ble Mr. A.K. Fazlul Huq to narrate  
what trickery and treachery he had himself perpetrated  
as Mayor. He urged the Ministry to withdraw these  
Bills on the pain of a declaration of war against the  
Bengal Legislature. Hari Charan Ghose decried the  
sinister influence of Imperialism behind the alleged  
preservation of communal interests. Jyotirmoy Ghosal  
accused the Ministry of perpetrating oppression  
through the Communal Award.



M 509/41



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200. Calcutta Corporation.

O.R. 27993  
25-7-41

In continuation of para.137 Raghb Ahsan is credited with the information that M.H. Isphahani will withdraw his resignation after the Mayor makes a statement in the Corporation expressing regret and requesting Naresb Nath Mukherji Councillor to withdraw his remark that Mr. Isphahani did not trust the Mayor. Raghb Ahsan has drafted the statement for the approval of the Mayor.

SC.



2.

Imanuddin Ahmed condemned the attitude of the Hon'ble Mr. Suhrawardy towards the Bengali Muslims whom he was alleged to have abused as Jolas (uncultured weavers). Referring to the Dacca riots he said that the riots were caused by big men out for their own ends. The President observed that a deep laid conspiracy had been plotted against the Bengali Muslims and Hindus but the latter were prepared to accept the challenge. The spirit of resistance must be roused amongst the people. He added that the Bengal Ministry had created sectional animosity all over the province and Mr. Fazlul Huq had brought disaster to the country. The Dacca riots started soon after Sir Nazimuddin's speech at Bhairab in opening a Pakistan Park. Resolutions were passed condemning the Bills and urging upon their withdrawal, criticising the Ministry and calling upon the people to resist the reactionary measures concerted by the Ministry both inside and outside the Legislature, and demanding the immediate formation of a nationalist Ministry in Bengal.

WH.



M.509/41  
110  
MUSLIM AFFAIRS. 30. 7. 41.

208. Bengali Muslim Association - Agitation against  
2nd Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill and  
Secondary Education Bill.

M.R.28625.  
29. 7. 41.

In a meeting (200) held on 28.7.41 at the Calcutta University Institute with Maulavi Habibur Rahaman, M.A., B.L. in the chair, the speakers\* recorded a protest against the Bills, describing them as anti-national, anti-democratic and communal. They criticised the Bengal Ministry for pursuing a policy which was detrimental to the interest of the Bengalee Muslims and Hindus. They insisted on Communal unity with a view to resist these bills and advocated provincialism for facilitating Bengali Nationalism. They all

\*President, Mr. N.C. Chatterji,  
Abdul Jalil Ahmed, Dr. Bhupendra  
Nath Bose, A.M.A. Zaman, M.L.A.,  
Imanuddin Ahmed.  
Others present : Major P. Bardhan,  
Dr. Brojen Banerjee, Bankim Ch.  
Bhattacharjee.

deplored the Pakistan Scheme and pressed for joint electorate system. Mr. N.C. Chatterji remarked that being tempted by British Imperialism, their brothers (Ministers) were trying to put the Corporation back in chains of slavery, which Sir Surendra Nath Banarji had broken. The Britishers pursued different policies on either side of the Suez. Hitler was described as a thief and Mussolini a robber; but if such pernicious Bills were passed into law for looting the Corporation money then they (Ministers and Britishers) would also be classed as thieves and robbers. If Bengal rose and could awake her youths, citizens and infuse strength and spirit in them, they could wipe out thousands of such Fazlul Haqs.

Abdul Jalil Ahmed laid charges against the Hindu Community in the past for crippling the interests of the Muslims, in education, culture, trade and industry, but he hoped the cloud had disappeared and both the communities would trust each other and become equal partners in the nationalism in Bengal and India. He added that the British Imperialism and their agents had crushed the Muslims and days were not far off when the pillar of British Imperialism would break into pieces. Revolution was ahead.



Calcutta Corporation

## By Mayor Withdraws Resignation

SITUATION EXPLAINED

### Mayor's Statement At Special Meeting

At Friday's special meeting of the Calcutta Corporation Mr. M. A. H. Ispahani withdrew his resignation of the office of the Deputy Mayor which he had tendered on the 16th July last.

Following a remark made about him by Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherjee, relating to the counting of votes by the Deputy Mayor, Mr. Ispahani had handed over at the close of the meeting his letter of resignation to the Mayor.

In the course of a statement which he made on Friday in that connection Mr. P. N. Brahma, the Mayor, stated that it had been complained by the Deputy Mayor that he (the Mayor) did not give him adequate protection at the Corporation meeting held on July 16 last, when the question of contract relating to Khaddar was being discussed, in not allowing him to make a statement in answer to certain observations made by a member to the effect that the Deputy Mayor had not sufficient trust in the counting of the Mayor inasmuch as he also was counting at that time.

Mr. Brahma immediately announced by saying that although the Deputy Mayor had not been requested on this occasion to count but on previous occasions he had requested Mr. Ispahani to count along with him so that counting might be very accurate and probably relying upon that Mr. Ispahani was counting on that occasion as well.

This, the Mayor thought, was sufficient to vindicate the honour of the Deputy Mayor so he did not consider it necessary to allow him to make any further statement.

After that item was finished, Mr. Brahma proceeded, when the time was almost up, the Deputy Mayor again wanted to make a statement and he (the Mayor) told him that Mr. Ispahani need not make any statement as Mr. Brahma had already made one which had sufficiently vindicated the Deputy Mayor. By that time the time was up and the meeting came to a close. After that Mr. Ispahani handed to him a letter intimating his intention to resign. To that Mr. Brahma sent a reply requesting him to think over the matter.

#### A MISUNDERSTANDING

The whole thing, the Mayor held, was the offshoot of a misunderstanding. Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherjee, who did not know that he had previously requested the Deputy Mayor to count, noticing him to do so had probably thought on the lines his words indicated but, Mr. Brahma was sure, that he never meant any slur on the Deputy Mayor.

The Mayor thought that the matter ought to be treated as closed; but if Mr. Ispahani wanted anything further to say about it Mr. Brahma had no objection to give him such an opportunity.

Explaining his position Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherjee assured the House that in the casual remark he had made on that day he had no intention of imputing any motive to Deputy Mayor on that occasion. The remark, Mr. Mukherjee added, was made in an absolutely friendly spirit. Mr. Mukherjee had no knowledge of the standing arrangement that had been made between the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor. He had not the slightest intention to hurt the feelings of Mr. Ispahani.

In view of the statements made by the Mayor and Mr. Mukherjee, Mr. Ispahani announced his withdrawal of the letter of resignation.

#### HOSPITAL REPORTS

The Calcutta Corporation decided that weekly reports should be submitted to the Public Health Committee by the Chief Health Officer and District Health Officers who would visit hospitals, receiving Corporation grants, in their respective areas in the city.

In that connection the Mayor stated that he along with Mr. Dharendra Nath Ghosh, Councillor, paid a surprise visit to the Campbell Hospital against which a charge was made on the floor.

Amrita Bazar Patrika 21.8/41

M. 509/40

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A. B. Palit 8p. 4.8.41

M. 509/100  
113

## CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL

### COALITION PARTY'S INSISTANCE TO PASS THE MEASURE

At the adjourned meeting of the Coalition Party held at the residence of Nawab Bahadur of Dacca yesterday (Sunday) afternoon, it is understood that decision had been arrived at to proceed with the Second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill. The Bill is to be taken up at to-day's (Monday) sitting of the Assembly.

There were rumours for the last few days that the Government might not proceed with the Bill in view of the present situation in the country. It is understood that at the meeting of the Coalition Party yesterday (Sunday) a large number of mofussil members remained indifferent to the question but a section of the Muslim Leaguers led by the Khawaja group insisted that the measure should be passed as early as possible. It was in their opinion a question of prestige not only of the Government but also of the Muslim League Party.

It is further understood that a question was raised at the meeting as to how far the first amendment act which was passed in the teeth of opposition had been helpful to the Bengal Muslims. But the issue was side-tracked.

### WITHDRAWAL URGED BY WARD 1 RATE-PAYERS' ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Executive Board of the Ward 1 Rate-Payers' Association, Calcutta, was held on Saturday, the 2nd August, 1941, at 44-1, Ramdhone Mitra Lane when the following resolutions were passed with S. Kiron Ch. Dutt in the chair:

The meeting condole the deaths of Mr. G. S. Dutt, Mr. Ganendra Nath Banerjee (Ganesh Maharaj) and Mr. Gopendra Nath Basu—all standing.

The meeting reiterated its strong protest against the Calcutta Municipal Second Amendment Bill and the Bengal Secondary Education Bill as undemocratic, anti-national and against the interests of all classes of ratepayers of the City and demanded the withdrawal of the Bills.

The meeting is of opinion that the salary cut recently imposed on the superior officers of the Corporation is justified and authorises the Ward Councillors to take necessary steps for maintaining the cut.

The meeting authorised the Secretary to move the Government of Bengal and the Corporation of Calcutta so that the Tube-wells be sunk in the City as may ensure regular supply of good drinking water.

The meeting requested the Secretary to send a list of Streets and Lanes in Ward No. 1 which are not properly lighted to the Lighting Superintendent of the Corporation and the Ward Councillors for necessary rectification.



H. Standard D) 48.41

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M. 509/51

## HINDUSTHAN STANDARD

### BENGAL ASSEMBLY

## APPOINTMENT OF C.E.O. & EMPLOYEES

### MOVE FOR CURTAILMENT OF CORPORATION'S POWER

#### Amendment Bill To Come Up For Consideration To-day

The Calcutta Municipal (Amendment) Bill will come up for consideration before the Bengal Legislative Assembly to-day (Monday).

In the absence of Hon. Khwaja Habibullah Bahadur of Dacca, Minister in charge of Local Self-Government and Member-in-charge of the Bill, who is indisposed, Hon. Mr. H. S. Suhrawardy, Finance Minister, is expected to move that the Bill, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.

There are fifty clauses in the Bill to which as many as 350 amendments have been tabled by members belonging to different parties and groups in the House including the Government.

The Congress Party has tabled amendments urging circulation or re-committal of the Bill to the Select Committee. Besides giving notice of various amendments to different clauses of the Bill, the Congress Party has also tabled amendments, suggesting that in the event of the Bill being passed into law, it should not come into force before the expiry of two or at least one year after the termination of the War.

#### MAIN PROVISIONS

The following are in brief the main provisions of the Bill:

1. The power of appointing its Chief Executive Officer which the Corporation has been enjoying since 1923 is taken away from the Corporation and is vested in the Provincial Government who under the Bill will appoint the Chief Executive Officer from the executive branch of the Indian Civil Service or the Bengal Civil Service. The Select Committee has, however, excluded members of the Bengal Civil Service from such appointment and has recommended that the appointment should be confined to members of the Indian Civil Service.
2. The Bill takes away the power of the Corporation of appointing its employees and vests that power in a Service Commission to be appointed by Government which will select persons to be appointed to posts under the Corporation. The Commission will consist of a Chairman, who shall at the time of his appointment have been for not less than ten years in the service of the Crown, and two Members, of whom one shall be a Muhammadan and one, a person other than a Muhammadan.
3. The Bill gives the Provincial Government power to dissolve the Corporation and order a general election and to supersede a department of the Corporation under certain circumstances. The Select Committee has recommended the deletion of the "prima facie drastic provision" of the Bill empowering Government to dissolve the Corporation.
4. The Select Committee has recommended a further extension of the franchise by suggesting the inclusion of a new clause making the owners of huts in bustees eligible to vote and has proposed a further lowering of the rent qualification in the case of occupiers of huts in bustees.



114  
Consolidated report regarding the proposed Hartal on 7.8.'41, organised by the Behgal Hindu Mahasabha and Congress against the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill. (Officers' reports placed below).

..... *placed in Secondary folder.*

Hartal has been announced on the 7th August, 1941, Thursday on which day the majority of the shops of all denominations are closed for their weekly closing under the provisions of the Bengal Shops and Commercial Establishments Act. Information has been received to the effect that the Hindu shop-keepers are likely to keep the shops closed for the "hartal" on 7.8.41, in the different parts of the city, as a protest against the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill. The vegetable dealers and the stall keepers of the markets are also likely to join the hartal. The Muslim shop keepers will refrain from hartal.

Besides the appeal issued in the press to this effect, two leaflets were circulated in Burrabazar and Bhawanipore areas, one issued over the names of Shyamaprasad Mukherji N.C. Chatterji, Sarat Chandra Bose, Dhiren Ghose, Kiran Sanker Roy and others, and the other issued over the names of Amalendu Bagchi and others of the B.P.S.F. asking the sho-keepers, the students and workers to observe hartal on 7.8.41, as a protest against the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill.

S.I., P.N. Chakravartti reports that the students are likely to observe hartal to-morrow by absenting themselves from their classes.

S.I., P.C. Mondal reports that the Hindu traders appear to be sympathetic with this move for it serves their communal cause without having to incur any additional loss because of the weekly closing on the day. The Stall keepers in the Bazar (Jagu Babu Bazar?) are being induced to refrain from selling vegetables, fish, etc., through the propaganda that this action is necessary to make an effective protest against the increased taxation on businessmen. The big shop keepers are taking the leading part in this propaganda and they insist on the bazars being kept closed tomorrow. In addition they have been spreading the rumour that the buses and taxis would cease from plying on the day of the next hartal if the object of this hartal remains unachieved.

S.I., N. Huda reports that an agreement is reported to have been arrived at between the Coalition Party and the Opposition over the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill and that the Hartal may be given up.

The following organisation have already been directed by the Hindu Mahasabha to make the Hartal on 7.8.'41 a successful one.

The Marwari Jubak Sangha,  
The Marwari Chhatra Samity,  
The Hindu Student Federation.

.....

BM N.B. A meeting, convened by shop-keepers, will be held at the College Street Market (1st Floor) at 6.30 p.m. on 7-8-41, with P. A. Brahma, the Mayor of Calcutta, in the Chair, to protest against the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill.



A. B. Patra. Dr. 5.8.41

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M 509/64

5

## Corporation's C. E. O.

### MR. MUKERJEA'S SUCCESSOR

### Parties' Decision In Favour Of Mr. Sailapati Chatterjee

It is understood that the different groups in the Corporation have generally decided regarding the selection of Chief Executive Officer in place of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee, who goes on leave from the 1st of September and has resigned from his services in the Corporation with effect from the 24th of December, 1941.

The Hindu Mahasabha at their party meeting at the end of the last week have unanimously decided that Mr. Sailapati Chatterjee, the First Executive Officer, should be appointed to officiate as the Chief Executive Officer during Mr. J. C. Mukerjee's leave and thereafter, be appointed Chief Executive Officer for a period of 5 years. Three persons who championed the cause of Dr. B. N. Dey, were absent.

The Bose Group in the Corporation at their Party meeting yesterday (Sunday) also decided that Mr. Sailapati Chatterjee should be appointed Chief Executive Officer for a period of five years. There were two dissentients including Mr. Naresh Nath Mookerjee.

It is not known if the European Party have come to any decision in the matter, but it is expected that they will support Mr. Chatterjee.

So far as the Muslim League Group in the Corporation is concerned it is understood that majority of them will support Mr. Chatterjee, but regarding appointment for five years, it is not known what their views will be in view of the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill, now under discussion in the Bengal Assembly.



M. 509/41  
SECRET.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Police,  
Special Branch, 14, Lord Sinha Road, Calcutta.

Memo No. 0434-c

Dated the 6<sup>th</sup> August 1941.

ENCLOSURE :-

Consolidated report regarding the  
proposed Hartal on 7.8.41 organised by  
the Bengal Hindu Mahasava and Congress,  
against the Calcutta Municipal Amendment  
Bill.

Forwarded to :-

- (1). RAI B.B. MUKHERJI BAHADUR, I.P., J.P.,  
Deputy Commissioner of Police,  
South District,
  - (2). K.F. SOBHAN ESQR., I.P., J.P.,  
Deputy Commissioner of Police,  
North District,
  - (3). KHAN BAHADUR MOHD. ISMAIL, J.P.,  
Deputy Commissioner of Police,  
Port Police,
  - (4). C. WEALE ESQR., I.P., J.P.,  
Deputy Commissioner of Police,  
Headquarters,
- for information.

*O/c* *T. S. Chatterjee*  
Addl. DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE,  
Special Branch, Calcutta.

MS.



43. Marwari Relief Society.

N.B. 30002  
7-8-41

In a Hindu public meeting (2000) held at the Kumar Sabha School pandal on 3-8-41 with Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee in the chair, on the occasion of the

\*Dr. Shyamaprosad Mukherji,  
Nirmal Chandra Chatterji,  
S.N. Banerjee,  
Padam Raj Jain,  
Major Prabhat Kumar Burdhan,  
Jugol Kishore Birla,  
Bansidhar Jalan,  
Prof. Hari Charan Ghose,  
Manoj Sarbadhikary,  
Dr. Madhoram Soft,  
Dr. Kissen Singh,  
Shyamnarain Sharma (in the audience)  
Madho Sukul,  
Bal Krishna Chaturvedi,  
Rama Sanker Tripathi, Editor,  
Lokemanya.

Silver Jubilee celebration of the Society, the speakers stressed the need for Hindu organization and consolidation and condemned the Pakistan Scheme. The President called upon the wealthy Hindus to raise a Hindu National Fund on an All-India basis to give relief to poverty-stricken Hindus and thereby draw more workers into this movement. He said that the English were not prepared to give up their estate in India. Mr. S.N. Banerji remarked that the plea that the

Muslims were a separate nation was false. Through oppressions and force they converted the Hindus in India to Islam. Nirmal Chandra Chatterji asked the Hindus to eschew non-violent non-co-operation and to cultivate the cult of force. He indulged in an intemperate criticism of the Ministry and the Muslims for being the sponsors of the "anti-Hindu, anti-national and anti-democratic" Calcutta Municipal

\*\*President,  
Jugol Kishore Birla,  
Nirmal Ch. Chatterji,  
S.N. Banerji,  
Rama Sanker Tripathi,  
Dr. Kissen Singh,  
Padam Raj Jain,  
Mukund Lal Sripal,  
Nagarmull Modi,  
Rameswar Rajgaria.

Amendment Bill. He observed that Muslims from Baluchistan and other places were brought to loot Hindustan. The rich Marwaris could not do anything with their money if the Mugs, Khaksars and renegade Muslims snatched away everything, their freedom and rights. The Dacca riots were Pakistan riots.

Dr. Kissen Singh asked the Hindus to organize and stand up as the Sikhs had done in connection with the Sahidganje (Mosque) dispute and further asserted that Pakistan would not materialize in the Punjab so long as the Sikhs remained alive. Padamraj Jain said that the Hindus were not thirty but eighty crores as Japan, China and Indo-China were their countries. He pleaded for Missionary movements to reconvert those who renounced Hindu faith.

Jugol Kishore Birla and Banshidhar Jalan were announced to have promised a donation of Rs. 10,000/- each for the re-building of Hindu temples in Dacca and Barisal.



A.B. Patra & 7/8/41

## To-day's Hartal Cancelled

### LEADERS' DECISION

#### Appeal To Public And Businessmen

Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose, Dr. Syama-  
prosad Mookerjee, Mr. Kiron Sankar  
Roy, Mr. Rajendra Chandra Deb, Mrs.  
Labanya Prova Dutta, and Mr. N. C.  
Chatterjee have issued the following  
joint statement on Wednesday the 6th  
instant. :-

"In view of the decision arrived at by  
Government this evening as a result of  
discussions with leaders of the different  
groups in opposition in the Bengal Legis-  
lative Assembly to recommit the Cal-  
cutta Municipal (Second Amendment)  
Bill to an enlarged select committee,  
which is to submit its report by the  
18th November next, and in view of  
the declaration made by Government  
this evening on the floor of the Assem-  
bly that they have an open mind and  
that the objections and suggestions of  
members of the opposition in the As-  
sembly regarding the provisions of the  
said Bill will receive due consideration  
from Government, we have to request  
the public of Calcutta not to observe  
hartal to-morrow, Thursday, the 7th  
instant.

"We regret very much that we could  
not make this request to the public  
earlier. But as the aforesaid decision  
and declaration was taken and made  
only this evening, we hope the public  
will appreciate that it was not possible  
for us to do so earlier. We hope the  
public and in particular the business-  
men of Calcutta will forgive us for the  
inconvenience caused to them.

"Finally we have to express our  
grateful thanks to the public for their  
enthusiastic response to our previous  
appeal to observe hartal to-morrow."

M. 509/41  
120



M. 509/41

121

W.R. for m/e 9.8.41

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**Second Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill.**—The Hindu Mahasabha and the Congress announced their intention of observing a *hartal* on the 7th instant to protest against the Bill. The B.P.S.F. also prepared for the closing of schools and colleges. The *hartal* was, however, abandoned as Government decided to recommit the Bill to an enlarged Select Committee.



H. Standard 9/12.8.41

M. 509/41 123

**MR. SAILAPATI CHATTERJEE**

**Recommended To Act As Chief  
Executive Officer**

The Services Standing Committee (No. 1) of the Calcutta Corporation decided on Monday to recommend Mr. Sailapati Chatterjee, the First Deputy Executive Officer to act as Chief Executive Officer during the absence on leave of Mr. J. C. Mukherjee (from September 1 to December 23).

The Committee further decided to recommend that after the officiating period was over Mr. Chatterjee be appointed Chief Executive Officer for a period of five years on a salary of Rs. 2,000/-.

The above recommendations of the committee will not now come up before the Council of the Corporation for ratification.



H. Standard 8/12-8.41 124

#### MAYORS' CONFERENCE

##### Mr. P. N. Brahma Leaves For Colombo To-day

The Mayor of Calcutta, Mr. P. N. Brahma, will leave for Colombo to-day (Tuesday) to attend the third session of the All-India, Burma and Ceylon Mayors' Conference to be held on August 18 and 19.

The Corporation of Madras will present the Mayor of Calcutta with a civic address on August 15.

The Mayors when they assemble in Colombo for the session will, apart from considering the agenda of the conference, visit the Victoria Park, municipal workshop, fire brigade, model tenements, child-welfare centre, municipal dispensary, playground, pumping station, city refuge and Town Hall, as also other municipal institutions.

Mr. Brahma will be accompanied by the Secretary to the Corporation, Mr. B. Mookerjee, and the personal assistant to the Mayor, Mr. R. N. Sen.

M. 509/41



MS 509/41

W.R for W/E 9.8.41

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<sup>CA.</sup>  
(b) **Death Anniversary of Natabar Dutta.—**

*Date*—3rd August.

*Place*—Santi Institute.

*President*—**Phanindra Nath Brahma**, Mayor (para. 2839).

*Audience*—35. <sup>CA</sup>

*Speakers*.—**Nirmal Ch. Borai**, B.L.,  
**Jyotish Ch. Biswas**, **Satya Charan Das**  
and the President.

**Sunil Kumar Das**, in an opening song, praised the late Natabar Dutta, who was a well known Councillor of the Calcutta Corporation. The speakers then described his life and public activities.



M 509/41  
125-  
W.R for W/E 16.8.41

**Miscellaneous.**

**2993. Rate-payers of Tollygunge Municipality.—**

*Date*—10th August.

*Place*—Charu Chandra Institution.

*President*—Charu Chandra Chatarji  
(para. 2349).

*Audience*—150.

*Speakers*—Haripada Kar, Profulla Ch. Mukharji, Akshoy Ch. Nandi and the President.

The speakers related how the people of Mattapara Road, Regent Park, who were suffering due to the floods in that area. It was resolved (1) to urge the Tollygunge Municipality to redress their grievances, (2) to move Government to bring the Tollygunge Municipality under the control of the Calcutta Corporation and (3) to start a Flood Relief Committee.



P  
H.A. Patwika 8 21-8-41 126

~~M~~ MAYORS' CONFERENCE

SESSION CONCLUDES: CALCUTTA  
THE NEXT VENUE

COLOMBO, Aug. 19.

The Mayors' Conference concluded its two-day session this evening after passing a number of resolutions, and deciding to have Calcutta as the venue for the next conference.

In his concluding speech the Mayor of Colombo Mr. Sarayanamutti extolled the high example set by Indian leaders to Ceylon. The Conference elected Mr. Sidwa who initiated the idea of Mayors Conference to be a life member. The conference also appointed a standing committee to carry out the decisions of the conference.—(A. P.)

M 9

M 509/41



Amrita Bazar 2.9.41

M. 509/41  
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## CORPORATION MEETING

# Rescission Motion Fails

## C. E. O.'S APPOINTMENT

### Councillor Assaulted For Voting Against Candidate

An attempt made at Monday's special meeting of the Calcutta Corporation to turn down the decision appointing Mr. Sallapati Chatterjee, officiating Chief Executive Officer, during the absence on leave of the present incumbent met with failure.

On the 27th August last, it might be recalled, the Corporation sanctioned the acting appointment of Mr. Sallapati Chatterjee as Chief Executive Officer in place of Mr. J. C. Mukerjee on leave. A requisition over the signature of seventeen Councillors was submitted with a view to rescind that resolution.

By 42 votes to 27, one not voting, the House refused permission to move the resolution to that effect.

Mr. J. C. Mukerjee was authorised to hand over charge to Mr. Sallapati Chatterjee. Mr. Mukerjee was allowed to avail himself of the leave already granted to him from any date subsequent to the 1st September last.

The requisition motion was supported by only nine Councillors of the Bose group and the members of the Coalition Party. Some of the prominent Muslim Leaguers were, however, noticed to be absent.

After the meeting was over, Councillor Bijoy Kumar Banerjee, who voted against the requisition motion, was set upon by about eight or ten men while he was boarding his car parked in front of the Corporation buildings. He was mercilessly assaulted and fell down on the ground. The hooligans made good their escape as some of the passersby rushed to his rescue.

Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherjee sought permission of the House to move the requisition motion which ran thus:

"That the resolution of the Corporation dated the 27th August, 1941, appointing Mr. Sallapati Chatterjee to act as Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation from 1st September, 1941, to 23rd December, 1941, vice Mr. J. C. Mukerjee on leave, be rescinded and that the matter be reconsidered.

That no action be taken on the resolution pending disposal of this motion."

The House by 42 votes to 27 refused Mr. Mukherjee permission to move the motion.

After the close of the special meeting another special meeting was held in which Mr. N. C. Chatterjee moved the following resolution:

That Mr. J. C. Mukerjee be authorised to hand over charge to Mr. Sallapati Chatterjee who has been appointed to officiate as the Chief Executive Officer during Mr. Mukherjee's absence on leave, in anticipation of Government approval to the appointment of the officiating Chief Executive Officer.

That Mr. J. C. Mukerjee be allowed to avail himself of the leave already granted to him from any date subsequent to 1941.

Rising on a point of order Mr. Debrata Mukherjee contended that the House had no right to pass the resolution since the appointment of the officiating C. E. O. was not complete until it received Government approval.

Mr. B. N. Roy Chowdhury enquired if the resolution was in order since no definite time from when Mr. J. C. Mukerjee was to hand over his charge to the new incumbent had been mentioned in it.

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee pointed out that Mr. Mukerjee could hand over his charge at any moment in course of the next four days.

The Mayor held that the resolution was perfectly in order.

At this stage Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherjee remarked that he would record his protest against this illegal resolution. Immediately shouts of protest against Mr. Mukherjee's observation rose from every side of the House.

Mr. B. C. Chatterjee: On a point of order, Sir. I cannot imagine such a language being used by Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherjee. How can Mr. Mukherjee characterise a ruling by the Mayor as illegal?

Mr. Naresh Nath Mukherjee maintained that he was entitled to hold that this was not a legal resolution. He would most emphatically record his protest against the method of anticipating the nomination of the Government. He felt that a resolution of this kind was entirely unprecedented. By ruling the resolution to be in order the Mayor, Mr. Mukherjee submitted, was taking upon himself a grave responsibility.

Mr. Brahma assured Mr. Mukherjee that he accepted the complete responsibility of his decision.

In that case, Mr. Mukherjee stated, he washed his hands of any responsibility relating to the passing of the resolution and he wanted his note of dissent to be recorded.

The resolution of Mr. N. C. Chatterjee when put to vote was accepted by the House.

### COUNCILLOR BANERJEE'S STATEMENT

"If free opinion is attempted to be suppressed by force and violence and members of the Corporation are made the victims of brute force and assault, free opinion will never find an expression in any public institution," says Mr. Bijoy Kumar Banerjee, Councillor, Calcutta Corporation, in a statement on the alleged assault made on him by certain persons as he was coming out after the Corporation meeting last evening.

Mr. Banerjee alleges that as he was coming out after the meeting some young men, about two dozens in number, presumably from the visitors' gallery, attacked him from the back because he had voted against a particular candidate, began to assault him and removed his purse. He was rescued by some drivers of cars parked near the Corporation building, who took him inside the Corporation building where medical aid was given him.

Mr. Banerjee adds: "I did what I

considered to be my duty and I might have honest differences. I deplore this irresponsible act on the part of some misguided persons."

*File  
Please keep this in  
file  
and  
etc*



Shivita Bazar 8 6.9.41

M. 509/4/128

**SJ. BEJOY KUMAR BANERJEE**

**CORPORATION COUNCILLOR'S  
CONDITION CAUSING ANXIETY**

The condition of Sj. Bijoy Kumar Banerjee, Councillor Calcutta Corporation, who was assaulted in front of the Corporation building last Monday by hooligans and had sustained injuries in his left ribs, remains unchanged and is causing anxiety.

He is under the treatment of Dr. Amarendra Nath Mukerjee F.R.C.S., who has advised complete rest

P. Sc  
note you please  
keep me in file  
C. B.  
9/9/41



MSD 9/41  
A.B. Patrika 8/17/9/41

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MR. SUBHAS BOSE

**ALDERMAN BYE-ELECTION TAKES  
PLACE ON OCT. 31 NEXT**

The bye-election of an Alderman in place of Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose has been provisionally fixed on October 31 next.

It is also learnt that a formal notice under the signature of the Chief Executive Officer, Calcutta Corporation will be issued in due course.

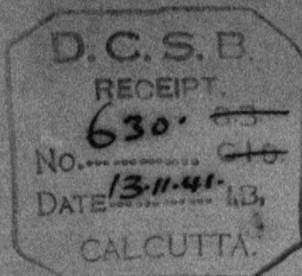


12/11  
11-539/41  
Secret.

132  
Intelligence Branch, C.I.D.  
13, Lord Sinha Road,  
Calcutta, the 12th November, 1941.

No. 7263. CS/

Copy of statement of T.L.59 dated 8.11.41.  
forwarded to Khair Bahadur Md. Nazim, Dy.  
Commissioner of Police, Special Branch, Calcutta  
for information.



*M. Nazim*  
Special Superintendent of Police,  
I.B., C.I.D., Bengal.

HB.  
12.11.41.

*13/11*



A.B. Patra 5/2/41

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**SJ. SUBHAS BOSE'S SEAT**

**CENTRAL ASSEMBLY  
BYE-ELECTION**

The seat of Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose, elected Member, Legislative Assembly, having been declared vacant, the Dacca Division (Non-Muhammadan Rural) constituency of the Legislative Assembly, states a Press Note, is being called upon to elect a member in his place. The 11th December, 1941 is being notified as the last date for the submission of nomination papers to the Returning Officer and the 15th December, 1941 for scrutiny.

**MR. K. NEOGY TO SEEK ELECTION**

It is understood Mr. K. C. Neogy will seek election from the Dacca Division Constituency to the Central Legislative Assembly for the seat of S.J. Subhas Chandra Bose declared vacant.



AB. Patrika & 26/1/41

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M-509/42

PIERS

**MR. SAILAPATI CHATTERJEE**

**PERMANENT APPOINTMENT AS  
C. E. O. SANCTIONED BY GOVT.**

"Patrika" understands that the Government of Bengal have sanctioned the permanent appointment of Mr. Sailapati Chatterji as Chief Executive Officer of the Calcutta Corporation.

Mr. Chatterjee was born in Calcutta in November, 1890. After a brilliant educational career, which he closed with a first class in law, Mr. Chatterji joined the Calcutta High Court as an Advocate and was a junior to Sir Manmatha Nath Mukherje. He was a Professor of History and a Professor of Law for several years. In the early twenties, however, he gave up law and his connection with educational institutions and turned to business in the course of which he started the first straw board manufacturing mill in India. Meantime at the call of late Deshabandhu Chittaranjan Das he joined the Calcutta Corporation as a Councillor in 1924 and served as such for nearly two terms being returned at the head of the poll, at the second time when there was an election. He represented the Corporation on the Board of the Calcutta Improvement Trust for two years.

He was already a well-known figure in Clive Street when at the end of 1928 he accepted the post of the Deputy Executive Officer of the Corporation and for the last 5 or 6 years he had been the second in command as the First Deputy Executive Officer.

Mr. Chatterje is the live-wire in the Corporation and known to be its strong man. He is essentially a disciplinarian.



outgoing Mayor for the purpose of holding for the election of a new Mayor.

Mr. Sudhir Chandra Roy Choudhury (Bose group) proposed Mr. Hem Chandra Naskar to be the Mayor and Mr. M. A. H. Ispahani (Moslem League) seconded him.

Mr. Devendra Nath Mukherjee (Hindu Mahasabha) proposed that Mr. N. C. Chatterjee be elected Mayor and Mr. M. K. Majumdar supported him.

Mr. Bijay Sing Nahar proposed the name of Mr. Mohanlal Makkar for Mayoralty which was seconded by Mr. Dharendra Nath Ghosh.

The Hindu Mahasabha demanded that the voting be conducted by ballot while the combined Bose and Muslim League groups demanded that the votes be counted by show of hands.

The Hindu Mahasabha's proposal being defeated, the voting was counted by show of hands.

The Hindu Mahasabha, European, Independent, Muslim League members led by Mr. Syed Baddurdojja and most of the nominated members voted for Mr. Chatterjee while the Bose group and the Muslim League supported the candidature of Mr. Naskar. The results of the voting were as follows:

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee	36
Mr. Hem Chandra Naskar	44

Mr. J. H. ... group, Mr. Syed Baddurdojja, Choudhury, Mr. Hemendra ... Devendra Nath Mukherjee and others also congratulated the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor.

#### MAYOR'S REPLY

Replying the new Mayor, Mr. Hem Chandra Naskar said that by electing him as the Mayor of the city they had done an honour to the cause he represented and the ideals he had followed in this House for nearly twenty years. His election would be specially appreciated by a particular section of the House and the community to which he belonged. He did not know whether he should be able to maintain the dignity and prestige of the chair as efficiently as some of his eminent predecessors but he could assure them that it would be always his earnest endeavour to do justice to the chair with the Corporation and sympathy of the Councillors.

#### DEPUTY MAYOR

Mr. Adam Osman, Deputy Mayor, replying expressed his gratitude to the members for electing him as the Deputy Mayor and assured them that he would do his utmost to serve the city to the best of his ability. He was sure that the members would assist him in making the difficult task easier.

#### CORPORATION HOLIDAY

The Municipal Offices and workshops will remain closed to-day (Thursday) in honour of the election of the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor of the Corporation for the year 1942-43.



...far his asser  
...that except th  
...no party in India asked fo  
...transfer of real power to ministers in  
...the midst of war.  
...money, but  
...the object, the money  
...forthcoming and, as the  
Congress President rightly observes,  
"the need is immediate." The Govern-  
ment of India have accepted the offer  
and we hope they will do something  
more to assist the unit. We associate  
ourselves whole-heartedly with the  
appeal for funds issued by the Con-  
gress President. Let rich and poor all  
alike remember that thousands of our  
countrymen are yet on their way to  
the motherland under conditions too  
pathetic to be described. There are  
women and children among them and  
many have had to leave behind all  
their earthly belongings to that ac-  
cursed country.

*act*  
A correspondent has brought it to  
our notice that despite the Rent Con-  
trol Order issued by the Government of  
Bengal absurdly high house rent is  
being realised at Santal Parganas.

Thirdly, whether the Congress re-  
jection of the draft declaration has  
received countrywide approval.

What is most important is the re-  
moval of confusion caused here by  
Sir Stafford's declaration that the  
Congress asked for clarification of the  
powers of the Viceroy as well as of  
the India Office only in his last inter-  
view which is the immediate cause of  
the breakdown.

Many here want to know whether  
other Indian leaders also feel that  
during the early stages of discussions  
Sir Stafford gave them a similar im-  
pression namely the Viceroy would be  
the constitutional head like a monarch  
and the affairs of India would be trans-  
ferred to the Dominion Office. It is  
rumoured here that at one stage of  
the negotiations Sir Stafford Cripps  
suggested that the Viceroy would act  
as the Prime Minister.

#### NAZI REIGN OF TERROR

EIGHT NORWEGIAN SAILORS



M. 509/42 U.S.R. 21. 9.2.42 138

### Miscellaneous.

1637. **Reception to the Mayor.**—On the 7th May Ward XXVIII Congress Committee, the Forward Bloc and the East Calcutta Students' Federation accorded a reception to Mr. **Hem Chandra Naskar** (para. 1635

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*supra*), the newly elected Mayor of Calcutta at Rashbagan. **Kazi Nazrul Islam** (para. 361) presided over the gathering (100). A tri-coloured Congress flag was flown.

**Ziauddin Ahmed** (para. 748), **Jogendra Lal Gupta**, **Bisweswar Mukharji** and **Priyannath Ganguli** delivered speeches felicitating the Mayor who had succeeded to a chair occupied by worthies like the late C. R. Das and J. M. Sen Gupta and lately **Subhas Bose** (para. 1571c). The present Mayor's services were recalled and the hope was expressed that he, the pride of the Scheduled Castes, would continue his good work in his new position.

The President said that Mr. **Naskar's** failure to become a Minister had enabled him to carry on his work as a free agent in his mayoral chair. He hoped to see his country free very soon, and observed that it was given to India to carry the message of peace in a war-worn world, as in the past.

The Mayor, while replying, assured that his door would remain open alike to the rich and the poor.



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W.Rd. 14.12.42

### Miscellaneous.

#### 536. Ratepayers of Tollygunge.

*Date*—8th February.

*Place*—Charu Chandra Institution.

*Audience*—100.

*President*—Dr. <sup>CA</sup>Charu Chandra Chatarji  
(para. 200).

*Speakers*.—Rai Saheb <sup>CA</sup>Anukul Chandra,  
Uitendra Sen Gupta, Haripada Bhatta-  
charji.

The speakers complained that the new Municipal Assessment was very high. Resolution was passed to send a strong deputation to Government to stop the new assessment.



MR. HEM CHANDRA NASKAR ELECTED  
MAYOR OF CALCUTTA

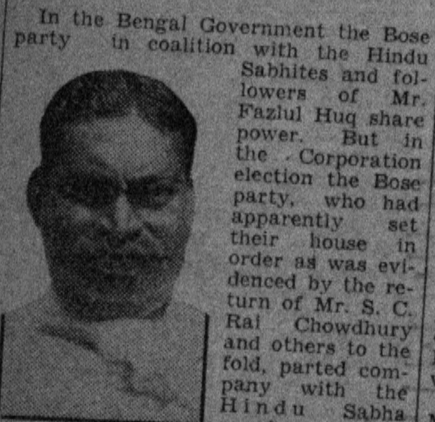
MR. A. OSMAN BECOMES DY. MAYOR

New Alignment Of Parties In  
Calcutta Corporation

SURPRISE SPRUNG UPON MANY

Civic Honour For The First Member Of  
Scheduled-Caste Community

MR. HEM CHANDRA NASKAR was elected Mayor and Mr. Adam Osman Deputy Mayor for the year 1942-43 at a meeting of the Calcutta Corporation yesterday (Wednesday). Like most mayoral elections when the tortuous undercurrents of the Corporation politics come into the open, this election was not without its surprise.



Mr. H. C. Naskar

In the Bengal Government the Bose party in coalition with the Hindu Sabhites and followers of Mr. Fazlul Huq share power. But in the Corporation election the Bose party, who had apparently set their house in order as was evidenced by the return of Mr. S. C. Rai Chowdhury and others to the fold, parted company with the Hindu Sabha members and

lem Leaguers, joined hands with them and turned down the candidature of Mr. N. C. Chatterjee, the Hindu Sabha nominee, who had the support of the Moslem League led by Mr. Syed Badrudojja, a prominent follower of Mr. Fazlul Huq in the Bengal Assembly.

The European group true to their role that of keeping the balance of power supported the candidature of Mr. Chatterjee for Mayoral election but in the case of the election of the Deputy Mayor they threw in their weight in support of Mr. Oosman who was the Muslim League nominee.

The new nominated members, who were sworn in, all supported the candidature of Mr. Chatterjee excepting Mr. Bhabesh Das who voted for Mr. Naskar.

In the election of the Deputy Mayor, when Mr. Shamsul Huq who was proposed by Mr. Syed Badrudojja and was defeated, almost the same alignment of parties as transpired in Mayoral election was in evidence. Two Bose party members Mr. Sudhir Chatterjee and Mr. Amulya Mitra voted against the Muslim League candidate and supported Mr. Huq.

The new alignment of parties was the talk of the Corporation lobby yesterday and people were wondering whether this was indicative of the revival of the Bose-League Pact or only temporary arrangement for the exigency of the Mayoral election. The congratulatory addresses which followed gave no indication excepting the very jubilant mood of Mr. A. R. Siddiqui, the Moslem League leader.

Mr. Hem Chandra Naskar, who is one of the oldest Councillors having served the Corporation for over ten years is the first member of the Scheduled Caste to occupy the Mayoral chair. Mr. Adam Osman is a prominent businessman of the city.

Mr. Phanindra Nath Brahma, the Mayor was elected Chairman conducting the meeting.

Mr. Mohan Lal Makkar  
Mr. Hem Chandra Naskar was declared as elected Mayor having secured the absolute majority of votes till the first meeting of the Corporation for the year 1943-44.

Mr. Syed Badrudojja proposed that Mr. Shamsul Huq be elected Deputy Mayor while Mr. Abdur Rahim Siddique proposed the name of Mr. Haji Adam Oosman.

The Hindu Mahasabha and the Independent Muslim League led by Mr. Badrudojja supported Mr. Huq's candidature while the Muslim League, Bose group and the European party voted for Mr. Oosman.

The voting results showed that Mr. Osman had secured 42 votes while Mr. Huq 36. Mr. Adam Oosman was declared to be elected Deputy Mayor.

NEW MAYOR & DEPUTY MAYOR  
FELICITATED

The outgoing Mayor, Mr. Phanindra Nath Brahma, was the first to felicitate the new Mayor and Deputy Mayor. Mr. Brahma referred to his connexion with Mr. Naskar and Mr. Oosman in public life and expressed his conviction that they would be able to discharge their duties as Mayor and Deputy Mayor in conformity with the dignity of the Chair.

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee congratulating the newly elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor said that it was the convention of the Corporation that he (rival candidate) should be the first to offer his heartfelt felicitation to the new Mayor. This was a critical year and the members of the Corporation would look upon him to guide them in the critical days ahead. They hoped that the Mayor would rise to the height of the occasion.

The war was in close proximity to the land and anything might happen any moment. The citizens were perturbed not merely for the apprehension of enemy bombing but also because of other dangers that might befall the city. If the dangers really would come it would be the duty of the representatives of the rate-payers to rise to the occasion and it might be his duty as the Mayor of the city to give a proper lead to the citizens, and irrespective of anything would voice the feelings and sentiments and grievances of all sections of the citizens.

Referring to the Deputy Mayor, Mr. Chatterjee said that although he was comparatively new to Corporation he was comparatively integrity of his character. He wished him a successful career as Deputy Mayor.

Mr. Sushil Chandra Sen said that Mr. Naskar had been in the Corporation for over ten years and was known for the regularity of attendance and keen interest which he had taken in the affairs of the Corporation. Mr. Sen hoped that the new Mayor would be able to hold the scales even between the conflicting parties in the Corporation. Referring to the Deputy Mayor, Mr. Sen said that he was a businessman and he hoped that he would conduct the affairs of the Corporation in a business-like manner.

Mr. Abdur Rahman Siddiqui said that they were glad on the election of Mr. Naskar and Mr. Osman because in it they saw the realisation of their dream of the principle of rotation in the Mayoralty of this city. They felt for it, fought for it and came to arrangements with the Bose group on this matter. The minorities in Calcutta, Mr. Siddiqui said, had been neglected in the past. In the election of Mr. Naskar the minority communities in the city had been assured that members of these communities would enjoy fullest scope to serve the city if they so desired.

Referring to the Deputy Mayor, Mr. Siddiqui said that he was a businessman and he hoped that Mr. Osman would conduct the affairs of the Corporation in a business-like way.

Mr. Satish Chandra Bose congratulating the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor said that it was very fortunate that the elections had been carried out according to the mandate of the voters, one of whom they did not know where was now and the other was behind the

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Amrit Bazar

8 30. 4. 42

M. 509/42



115. B.P.I.

At a meeting\* of the Bengal Committee held on 21.4.42. at the residence of Mrs. Sukumari Ghosh (sister of Nanda Bose) at Prinsep Street under the presidentship of No.1,

\*Hafiz Jalaluddin, it was decided that the following members should leave as early as possible for the places noted against each to activise party work :-

Kamal Sarkar,	Monoranjan Ray alias	- Chittagong.
Nanda Bose,	Kebila (E.D.).	
Santosh Ghosh,		
Jogen Sarkar,	Naresh Das Gupta	- Barisal.
Nasib Basistha,		
Sudha Roy,	Subodh Bose,	- Khulna.
Monoranjan Roy,	Nanda Bose,	
Profulla Chakrabarti,		
Naresh Das Gupta, and		
others.		

Nalini Bhattacharji - 24-Pargannas.

Sushil Das Gupta, (The last two to work particularly in  
Abdur Rahman, the industrial areas on river side).  
Hafiz Jalaluddin.

Sudhir Das, Calcutta Dock  
Nasib Basistha areas.

Shyamal Ray - Ballygunge.

Jogen Sarkar, Barrackpore  
Amulya Ghosh(of Khulna) region (Cossipore  
to Kanchrapara)

Kamal Sarkar and Nanda Bose will assist.

At a meeting of the Labour Party of India held on 22. 4. 42 at 1, Kenderdine Lane, the above decision was confirmed.



Mr. T. N. Bagchi, Managing Director of Messrs. P. M. Bagchi & Co. left for Dacca (to visit his new Branch) on Thursday by Dacca Mail. He is expected to come back on the next Thursday morning.

## NEW MAYOR FELICITATED

### Function At Sealdah Police Court Bar

The members of the Sealdah Police Court Bar offered their heartfelt congratulation on Thursday to Mr. Hem Chandra Naskar, M. L. A., Honorary Magistrate, Sealdah, on his being elected as the Mayor of Calcutta in a meeting held in the Bar Library Hall. Mr. Probodh Chandra Bose, senior practitioner of the Bar, referred on behalf of the members, to the qualities of the head and heart of the new Mayor and also his many-sided activities which justly fitted him to the unique post to which he has been suitably elected and wished him a very successful career as a Mayor of Calcutta. Mr. Naskar was garlanded and he gave a suitable reply.

Mr. A. Hossain, Police Magistrate and Mr. S. C. Gupta, Second Police Magistrate, garlanded the newly elected Mayor and they were really happy as one of their colleagues has been elected as Mayor of Calcutta.

Mr. S. Z. Hossain, Mr. M. L. Mullick, M.B.E., and Mr. C. Griffiths, Honorary Magistrates, met the new Mayor and expressed their hearty congratulations as one of them has been successful in securing the Mayoral chair which is covetable.

The ministerial officers of the Sealdah Police Court including the Police officers expressed their heartfelt thanks to Mr. Naskar and garlanded him.

H. H. and  
8/15/42

P  
M. 509/42 141



14. P. 38 may not be accurate  
new between 1941 to 1942  
category was a  
and

Most.

6. Presumed source.

Imagination.

7. General effect, if any.

Slight increase in panic, but daily figures of passengers leaving Calcutta by rail show no increase.

8. Contradictions.

May be contradicted locally. The names of persons who received prior information of the air-raid practice may be mentioned.

WH.



## RECEPTION TO MAYOR

### Tea Party At Scheduled Caste League

Mr. Hem Chandra Naskar, the newly elected Mayor of the Calcutta Corporation, was accorded a hearty reception by the Executive Committee of the Bengal Scheduled Caste League at a tea party held at the Kaibarta Samity Bhawan at Ramnath Kaviraj Lane. Mr. Radhanath Das, M.L.A., presided over the function.

In welcoming Mr. Naskar, Mr. Jogendra Nath Mondal, President of the Bengal Scheduled Caste League, said that by his election as the Mayor of Calcutta the Scheduled caste communities had been honoured and he hoped that Mr. Naskar would be able to safeguard their interests in his wider sphere of activities.

Mr. Naskar in course of his reply assured the audience that he would always do his very best to see the interest and welfare of the scheduled caste communities, whether as Mayor of the Corporation or otherwise.

Among those present were Messrs. Amulya Charan Mitter, Bepin Behari Ganguli, A. S. Naskar, Indra Bhusan Beed, Bhabesh Chandra, Councillors, Calcutta Corporation, Dr. B. N. Dey, Messrs. Biswanath Mukherjee, M. N. Deb, Jajneswar Mondal, N. C. Dhuisya, Rai Bahadur Dr. Harendra Nath Das, Sukumar Roy and Parimal Das.—U.P.

*H Standard 8/5/42*

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of the Japanese. He asked the people to demand arms and equipment from the British Government to oppose the Japanese and to pave the way for India's independence.

A procession (8) went from the Federation Office to Baghbazar. Another procession (8) went from Jagubabu Bazar to Indra Roy Road. Anti-Fascist posters were displayed including one containing the portrait of Hitler described as a man-eater, a second portraying the Japanese as moving about to devour the Chinese, and another showing a Japanese who holds an apple in the left hand and conceals a knife in his right hand, and a fourth depicting India with a British Lion on it.

According to some members\*, the C.P.I. will launch a campaign on and from the "May Day" for the release of the political prisoners and the right to bear arms to further the slogan of the peoples' war.

* Sudhir Bhattacharji,	
Biren Banarji,	
Suresh Bose,	
Sanker Ray Chaudhuri,	
Benoy Ghosh,	
Anil Kanjilal.	

CORRIGENDUM:- In the list of the individuals of para 12 of the Special Branch Daily Notes, please read the party connection "R.S.P." at the end of each of the following names:-

Amar Mukharji.  
Pratulla Kundu.  
Sachin Sen.



CONGRESS. 12.5.42.

Civil Protection Committee.

At a meeting (100 to 50) held on  
presidentship of BIBHUTI BHUSAN KUNDU  
d the audience to group themselves  
he leadership of the Congress, join to  
ee, act according to its advice, and face  
sis boldly without being panicky.  
Bandopadhyaya remarked that British  
alism which had looted the country for  
200 years was not strong enough to  
the country at the time of the danger.  
ti Ghosh said that they had very little  
Organization of the Government as the  
not associated with it.

A Congress flag was displayed and  
'Down with Imperialism' and 'Form People



PREPARATION SUSPENDED

Electoral Roll Of Calcutta Corporation

Government of Bengal is understood, have advised the Corporation of Calcutta to keep temporarily in suspension the preparation of the electoral roll by the latter for its general election which is due to take place in next March.

The time for the preparation of the roll is rather overdue and the Corporation authorities sought the advice of the Government of Bengal as to what should they do in view of the emergency situation that prevails and also enquired whether the Government would, in order to obviate many difficulties that beset in preparing the roll and running the election, extend the tenure of office of the Councillors as they did when the last amendment of the Act was on the legislative snail of the province.

The Government, it is understood, have briefly replied advising that the preparation of the roll should be kept in suspension for three months for the present.

It may be mentioned that the preparation of new Electoral Roll for every general election of the Corporation of Calcutta is a statutory obligation and the Corporation has to publish the preliminary roll for receiving claims by the middle of November.

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## CORPORATION BYE-ELECTION

### Votes To Be Recorded By 'Symbol System'

The rate-payers of Calcutta will for the first time record their votes under the 'symbol system' when they go to the polling booths on June 4 next in connection with the bye-election to be held in the Mahomedan constituency in Muchipara area, Ward IX, in the vacancy caused by the death of Councillor Md. Nuruddin Ahmed.

So long the electorates under the Calcutta Corporation used to cast their votes in favour of the candidates of their choice. But under the new Government Rules the 'symbol system', which is in vogue in the election of members to the provincial legislature, has been introduced in the election of Councillors to the Calcutta Corporation requiring the voters to cast their votes in favour of the symbols chosen by contesting candidates.

Altogether six candidates have filed their nomination papers in connection with the above bye-election. They are Syed Majid Baksh (ex-Councillor), Kazi Ashraf Ali, Mr. Asgar Ally, Nawabzada Kamruddin Hadar, Dr. K. Ahmed and Mr. Walli-ul-Islam (retired Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta). The scrutiny of nomination papers will be held at 11 A.M. on May 11 by Returning Officer, Mr. R. Sinha, Chief Valuer and Surveyor of the Calcutta Corporation.

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M. 575

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CONGRESS. 12.5.42.

Civil Protection Committee.

At a meeting (100 to 50) held on  
presidentship of BIBHUTI BHUSAN KUNDU  
the audience to group themselves  
under the leadership of the Congress, join the  
Congress, act according to its advice, and face  
the future boldly without being panicky.  
Bandopadhyaya remarked that British  
rule which had looted the country for  
100 years was not strong enough to  
save the country at the time of the danger.  
Ghosh said that they had very little  
organization of the Government as the  
Congress was not associated with it.

A Congress flag was displayed and  
a banner with "Imperialism" and "Form Peoples"



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কর্পোরেশনের লীগ দল

বর্তমান বৎসরের কর্মকর্তা

কলিকাতা, কর্পোরেশন মুসলিম  
লীগ কোয়ালিশন পার্টি বর্তমান  
বৎসরের অগ্র নিম্নলিখিত কর্মকর্তা  
নির্বাচন করিয়াছেন।

লীগার—এ আর সিদ্ধিকী।

ডেপুটি লীগার—এম এ এইচ  
ইস্পাহানী।

সেক্রেটারী—এম এ মার্টিন ও  
এল বর্মা।

হইপ—মহম্মদ রকিব ও এ হাবিব।

Bharat

1 8 10.5.42  
5675

A.S. CM.

please write  
Lup

1/5 Some  
copy

15/5

40. Strike at Roy Machinery & M.I. Corporation  
Ltd, 104, Ultadingi Main Road.

O.R.17337  
7.5.42.

In continuation of para 35: All the  
strikers resumed work on 7.5.42 when the company  
started the factory.



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U.S.R. d/- 23.5.42

**1820. Reception to Mayor and Deputy Mayor.—**

*Date*—22-5-42.

*Place*—Arya Samaj Hall, Calcutta.

*President*—**Hemendra Prasad Ghosh**  
(para. 115).

*Audience*—80. α.

α. *Speakers*.—**Digen Barman**, a teacher,  
**Sudhir Ray Chaudhuri**, the Mayor, Deputy  
Mayor and President. α.

*Organisers*.—Calcutta Corporation Teachers' Association.

α. **Digen Barman** and another teacher (name not known) welcoming the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor said that due to the vacation their poor salaries had been halved. This could be made good they said, by paying them some honoraria for their A.R.P. work.

The Mayor replied that owing to the war, the Corporation's financial condition was not good, but he would consider what help he could give.

B. Q. Press-1942-43-12X-102.

my



ts.6, 7 and 9 Raghubir Singh  
neer wickedness on the part of  
ment to preach that Communal  
n India in order to perpetuate  
He asked Indians to fight for  
estruction of British Imperialism  
ved. He called upon the people  
rward Bloc which was formed by

ng, there was an exhibition of  
eakers. At No.8 meeting, copies  
li leaflet headed "Is this a  
sued by R.S.P.I. (vide para. 43 )  
unknown person.

posters were displayed and slogans

#### APPENDIX 'A'.

##### meetings.

##### Organizers. President. Speakers.

B.P.C.C.(Sus- Mr.Phanin-1.President,  
pended). dra Nath 2.Ksnitish  
Brahma, Chakra-  
Mayor of barty,  
Calcutta. 3.Jitendra  
Nath  
Banarji,  
4.Usha Ran-

M 509/42 ✓  
M.R. 1765.  
8.6.42.

148  
79. Civil Defence.

At a meeting (200) held on 7.6.42 at Abhay Halder Lane under the auspices of the Calcutta Corporation and under the presidency of Manick Lal Nag, Jnanenjan Neogi asked the audience to participate in the work of civil defence.

Brojen Bhadra and a dozen others gave an A.R.P. demonstration.



150

Ac (1)

Perusal of the letter  
below. W.V. may fill up  
the blank history sheet?  
for orders p.c.

Asan.  
28/5.

WW

h 28/5.

Ac (1)

28/5

Particulars not  
in order.

and

28/5

Do to mth/ll h 29/5

St. P.N.C.

29/5

Month St. AA  
Jules  
30/5

ACI

7  
Please see the SB  
file notes below. They  
want the particulars of  
Lol Mohan <sup>my</sup> ghost. WW  
may suggest SB officers  
meeting report is placed  
below this file.

D  
11/6

4/11

WW  
11/6

JASD

11/6

His identity cannot be fixed

CAB

12/6 Do to hypothesis

v. early

Alan

10/6

10/6  
18/6



A.C.1

Report <sup>151</sup> attached  
at 5/6/42

Henri Chandon Nasher

is an M.C.A. and  
Mayor of the Calcutta  
Corporation. It is not  
possible to approach him  
for the particulars required  
by I.B. No information  
can be had on mail-  
enquiry from his  
house. Order solicited  
whether or not an open  
enquiry should be  
made.

Do to  
Wentup  
JCP  
1/6

1/6  
DC(2)  
For return  
1/6

30/5/42

I.N. Mukherjee

Done on 1/6  
Satisfied  
S.D. Singh

1/6  
M. Sheel  
20/1/6

13 Patra 19.8.40

WARD 23 C. C.

S. EDUCATION & MUNICIPAL BILL  
CONDENSED

The following is the full text of a resolution passed at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Ward 23 Congress Committee held on 11-8-40 under the presidency of Shri Suresh Ch. Das :-

This Committee condemns the Secondary Education Bill, as the main object of its introduction is nothing but to destroy the fundamental basis of the education of the province. This Committee feels that the officialisation of Education as provided in the Bill, will bring into the country an utter dismal by uprooting the present educational system. This Committee, therefore, resolves that the B. P. C. C. be requested to start a campaign against this Bill.

This Committee strongly condemns the move of the Bengal Ministry by introducing the Calcutta Municipal Second Amendment Bill. This Committee emphatically holds that the Bill is against the interest of the rate-payers of Calcutta and is detrimental to the better Civic Administration of the city. This Committee further condemns the attitude of the Boas Group, who, while openly denouncing the Bill in open platform co-operates with the Muslim Leaguers, who are, in reality, the sponsors of the said reactionary Bill. This Committee, therefore, resolves that the steps be taken for raising the public opinion against the Bill.

Resolved that S. J. Paresh Ch. Das Gupta be appointed Office Secretary of the Committee.

M-509/40  
24



**Government of West Bengal**

## FLY-LEAF OF ENGLISH CORRESPONDENCE

(See Rule 62 of the Records Manual, (1911))

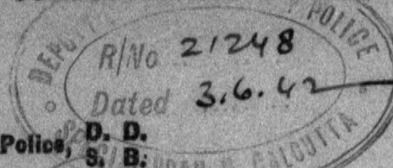
1st Page.]

19

Collection No. .... File No. PH 1490 Office .....  
File Subject ..... Branch/Department ..... of 19..

Serial No. in file.	Letters, etc., from whom received or to whom issued.	Number.	Date.	Class of paper.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Mr	Sushu. <i>Gloss of</i>	<i>Ref Sec</i>	<i>20 5/52</i>	<i>21 5/52</i>	

## CONFIDENTIAL DIARY.



Date

Hour of receipt by Dy. Commr.

Due Daily to the Dy. Commissioner of Police,

D. D.  
S. B.D. D.  
S. B.

CALCUTTA POLICE.

From Inspector

N. Mookerjee

D. D. Calcutta, dated

2

6

1942

Date and hour.	Diary.	Dy. Commissioner's Remarks and Orders.
2-6-42	<p>R / 19985 &amp; 26.5.42</p> <p>R: <u>Hem Chandra Naskar</u> Mayor, Cal. Corp.</p> <p>As directed by D.C., I saw the Offg Secy. of the B.L.A., but could not get any details re. any members of the Assembly. He gave me to understand that these details could not be had from the records of the B.L.A. Office.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">N. Mookerjee 2-6-42</p>	<p>D.O. enquiring Slit for the parti- -culars of Hem Chandra Naskar - enquired for writing up his history 2/6 sheets into 6/30 on 1/6 is original</p> <p>Ac1 - Personal with H. Chandra Naskar from S. T. Mondal. M. A. Mondal is attached. F.O.P. 4/6-42 4/6</p>



2  
Contd

153

Kheadoh, U.B. No 3, P.O. Sonarpur  
Or 24 Pergamans.

(3) Elected from 24 Pergamans - South  
East - the Sadar and Ba-  
shihat Sub Division - exclu-  
ding municipal areas.

Submitted,

D. J. Singh Esq.

5/6/42.



I have consulted  
every possible place.  
Nothing more can  
be done. He wants  
the assembly file.  
10/6/42

154

R 19985 of 26.5.42 re: Hem Chandra  
Nashkar at Nashkar Lodge - Bellinghata:-

JOINT COMMISSIONER OF  
R/V 21602  
Dated 6/7/42  
SPECIAL AGENT

As directed by the D.C. I made quick  
enquiries in the locality. Hem Chandra  
Nashkar lives in his own house at  
72 Bellinghata Main Rd. Some  
people said that they (Nashkar family) origin-  
ally belonged to Bashirhat Sub Division,  
but none could give any particulars of  
the village. It was learnt that he  
has got fish business and lands  
property in Bashirhat and Sonarpur  
area. He was said to be aged over  
50 yrs. Nothing further could be gathered  
locally.

He is now an Hony. Magistrate of  
the Sealdah Police Court.

I consulted the Municipal Gazette  
in the Press Section, Lalbazar.  
The matter relating to the election of  
Mayor and Dy Mayor has been  
published in the issue of the above  
Gazette of 2.5.42. but no family  
history etc has been given there.

I consulted the printed list of  
Members of the Legislative Assembly  
and found the following against the  
name of Hem Chandra Nashkar

- (1) Calcutta address - Nashkar  
72 Bellinghata Main Rd.  
Moffatt Rd - K2

Act  
Personal with  
Refer to his two  
orders below.

Do to fill up the form  
as far as he  
can. 10/6/6

Complied with  
S. S. Aziz  
8.8.42

S. S. A. Aziz 6.6.42

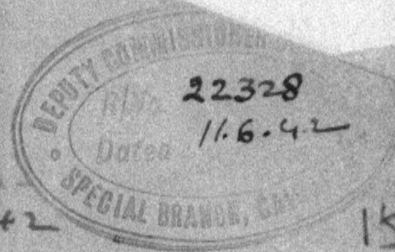
Try through  
Local Police  
and also from  
Assembly office  
to get other  
particulars.

Do to consult  
University  
Calendar  
to get his  
particulars  
10/6/6



1509/42 Re Dada Hem Ch. Naskar

Ref 21602 of 6.6.42



155

Confidential Enquiry made from Dada Abinash Chatterjee, Member, Seaboard Court; who is very thick with the above and knew that Dada Hem Chandra Naskar is aged about 50, he passed Matric only from Rashtreeya George High School and read up to I.A. Standard then gave up his study for good. Politically he belongs to Subhas Bose's group. An Hon. Magistrate, Seaboard Court. None of his relations is in Govt Service. They are four brothers living at present. One of his brothers is Dada Biswanath Naskar who is an advocate of Calcutta High Court. For Kunda Koney his relations is an ex-convict & politically convicted.

Submitted  
By Sub-insp  
Date 17/6

Act -  
Perusal  
with refer  
to H. below:  
see, many spec  
and the form  
be sent to S.D.  
with add. information  
as respects particulars  
as received  
but F.O.D.

He  
up -  
11/6  
Done  
17/6

#### RECEPTION TO MAYOR

Mr. Hem Chandra Naskar, M.L.A., Mayor of Calcutta, was entertained at an evening party by the directors of the Ballygunge Estates Ltd. on the 12th June last at the premises of the Aleya Cinema. The gathering on the occasion included many important Government and Corporation officials, eminent lawyers and medical men and others. The function was a success.

Mr. S. N. Sinha Mg. Director of the Estates, was all attention to the guests.

H. S. 2156

8/16/6/42

M. 509/42



## CORPORATION MEETING

### STANDING COMMITTEES FORMED

Standing Committees for the current year were formed at the meeting of the Calcutta Corporation on Wednesday.

A special committee was appointed by the Corporation to deal with the representation made by Councilor Jauddin Ahmed, President of the Corporation Employees' Association, calling upon the Corporation authorities to meet the demands of their employees within a stipulated period.

The following Standing Committees were appointed. The decision with regard to the personnel of the Committees was unanimous in each case.

**Buildings Standing Committee No. I:** Sir Harisankar Paul, Messrs. Bhabesh Chandra Das, Jogendra Mandal, Sudhir Kumar Chatterjee, Mrigendra Kumar Majumdar, Mohonlal Makkar, Bepin Behari Sadhukhan, Professor S. N. Das, Khan Bahadur Md. Solaiman, Abdul Matin, Haj. Md. Hossain and Jauddin Ahmed.

**Buildings Standing Committee No. II:** Messrs. Jagannath Koley, Anandlal Poddar, A. S. Naskar, Nares Nath Mukherjee, H. K. Ghosh, Satyabrata Sen, Bepin Behari Ganguli, Harihar Das Choudhury, S. A. Habib, Taj Mahomed, S. C. Varma and Sheikh Baser Ali.

**Buildings Standing Committee No. III (for District No. IV):** Messrs. Krishna Chandra Ghosh, Nital Paul, Prafulla Kumar Dutta, Bijoy Kumar Bannerjee, Hemendra Prasad Ghosh, Pulin Behari Khatik, Dharendra Kumar Majumdar, Major P. Bardhan, Mahmud Ghaznavi, M. A. Jabbar, Kalimuddin Choudhury and Shamsul Huq.

**Estates and General Purposes Standing Committee:** Messrs. Satish Bose, Indu Bhushan Beed, Bijoy Kumar Bannerjee, Gokuldas Mohita, Amarendra Nath Mukherjee, T. C. Roy, Dr. S. C. Law, Mrigendra Kumar Majumdar, Khan Bahadur Haji Wali-ul-Islam, M. A. Israil, Mahomed Gulzar and Dehabrata Mukherjee.

**Finance Standing Committee:** Messrs. Anandlal Poddar, B. C. Chatterjee, Khan Sahib Mohsin Khan, Haj. Md. Hossain, Hamoodur Rahman, Dr. B. C. Roy, Dr. S. C. Law, Hemendra Prasad Ghosh, B. M. Mandal, Khan Bahadur Md. Solaiman, S. A. Gray and D. J. Cohen.

**Public Health Standing Committee:** Dr. Subodh Kumar Sarkar, Messrs. Jogendra Mandal, Amulya Mitter, Dr. A. Ahsan, S. C. Varma, Abdul Rajjak, J. H. Mathoid, J. Macfarlane, I. J. Cohen, Satyabrata Sen, Major P. Bardhan and Dr. Sadeq Hossain.

**Public Utility and Markets Committee:** Messrs. Krishna Chandra Ghosh, Kshitish Chandra Chakravarti, Amulya Charan Mitter, Taj Mahomed, S. A. Habib, Md. Shamsul Huq, Mackertich-Jahn, Bijoy Singh Nahar, Mohonlal Makkar, Harihar Das Choudhury, H. K. Mukherjee and W. Gough-Govia.

**Works Standing Committee:** Messrs. Sudhir Chandra Roy Choudhury, Indu Bhushan Beed, Jagannath Koley, Debiban Bannerjee, Amarendra Nath Mukherjee, Dharendra Nath Ghosh, Dr. Sadeq Hossain, E. S. W. Hayward, W. R. Humphrey, Dr. A. Ahsan, Md. Gulzar and Jauddin Ahmed.

**Roads and Busters Standing Committee:** Messrs. Fakir C. Ghosh, Jogesh C. Ghosh, Bhabesh Ch. Das, Sir Harisankar Paul, M. A. Jabbar, Md. Jalil, Khan Sahib Mahasin Khan, Sheikh Baser Ali, Bidhu Bhushan Sarkar, Sudhangshu Mitter, Dhiren Ghosh and H. K. Mukherjee.

**Water Supply Standing Committee:** Messrs. Naren Dalal, Fakir Ghosh, Kshitish Chandra Chakravarti, Pravansu Sett, D. N. Mukherjee, Deviban Bannerjee, Madan Mohan Burman, Haj. Mahomed Yusuf, Haj. Md. Jalil, S. W. Hayward, W. R. Humphrey and C. Griffiths.

**Services Standing Committee No. I:** Messrs. Sual Chandra Sen, Bidhu Bhushan Sarkar, Debendra Nath Mukherjee, Pulin Behari Khatik, Nares Nath Mukherjee, Jogesh Chandra Ghosh, Gokuldas Mohita, Pravangshu Sett, Mahmud Ghaznavi, Md. Israil, Abdur Rajjak and Syed Baddrudoljal.

**Services Standing Committee No. II:** Messrs. Sudhir Kumar Chatterjee, A. S. Naskar, Nital Paul, Prafulla Kumar Datta, Khan Sahib Wahed Zaman, Hamoodur Rahman, Haj. Mahomed Yusuf, A. Matin, Bepin Behari Sadhukhan, Sudhangshu Mitter, Bepin Behari Ganguly and Dharendra Kumar Majumdar.

**Primary Education Standing Committee:** Messrs. B. C. Chatterjee, P. D. Himmalsingka, Professor S. N. Das, Khan Bahadur Waliul Islam, J. N. Birch, and Dehabrata Mukherjee. Co-opted members: Profs. Pachugopal Bhattacharjee, Haricharan Ghosh and Mrs. Hakam.

### GRIEVANCES OF LABOUR STAFF

Taking up the question of the representation of the employees of the Corporation through Councilor Jauddin Ahmed, Mr. N. C. Chatterjee said that by agreeing to the increment of Re. 1 per head to the scavengers the Corporation had to incur an additional expenditure of Rs. 2,20,000. They had promised in view of the emergency remission of rates and taxes to rate-payers which would involve a loss of about 12 lakhs. If they were now to agree to representation of Mr. Jauddin, Corporation would have to incur an additional expenditure of 20 lakhs, which the Corporation could not meet. It was not within their capacity even to meet a fraction of that demand. But they also felt that something should be done to meet the grievances of their labour staff as far as possible. He therefore proposed a special committee to deal with the representation made by the scavengers, labourers and workmen. Mr. Chatterjee's suggestion was accepted by the House and the following committee was appointed: Messrs. M. A. H. Ismail, S. C. Varma, J. H. Mathoid, Indu Bhushan Beed, N. C. Chatterjee and Hemendra Prasad Ghosh.

*Amitt 63 in*

157

*M-509/428 25/6/42*  
*M. 509/42*

*on file for*  
*Cons*  
*29/6*

15. C.P.I.

C.193.  
4. 3. 42.

According to Abdul Hamid, a member of the Biri Workers' Union (Red), Irtuza Hosain (C.P.I.) joined the official A.R.D. organization as a volunteer about a fortnight ago. The district in Calcutta where he enrolled himself is not known, but he is a resident of Narkeldanga area.

(NOTE : Attempts are being made to verify this.)

C.193.  
4. 3. 42.

At a meeting\* (20) of North Calcutta members and sympathisers held on 28. 2. 42 at 29 Kali Kumar Banarji Lane, Tala, Miss Santi Sarkar spoke on the

\*Santi Mukharji,  
Bankim Chatarji, @ Paran,  
Arun Kar,  
Sailesh Chakrabarti,  
Anil Mukharji,  
Bisseswar Bose alias Bisu (E.C.),  
Satyabrata Ghosh (E.D.),  
Santi Sarkar (Miss),  
Suren Dutta Gupta of Baghbazar,  
One Sisir of Ram Krishna Lane,  
and ten others.

new Communist policy. She strongly criticised the pre-war and even the war-time British policy in the earlier stages which she remarked, tended to strengthen the Fascists and pointed out how the war had now become a peoples' war under the leadership of Soviet Russia. While warning the masses against the disaster of a Fascist victory, she observed that British Imperialism which

was already decaying in India would have little power left to resist their bid for the capture of power, while fighting the peoples' war. She advised the raising of guerillas to fight foreign invaders and urged that pressure must be exerted on Government for arming Indians. In reply to a question from Anil Mukharji about the advisability of organizing labour strikes in the present situation, Santi deprecated organisation of strikes to embarrass Government, which she said could only be resorted to, when unavoidable, to realize the general economic demands of the labourers for dearness allowance, wages for work on holidays, etc.

16. C.P.I. - publications.

C.193.  
4. 3. 42.

A copy of printed "Majur Bulletin" in Bengali dated 6.2.42 and published by the Bengal Committee, has been recently procured from Bankim Chatarji alias Paran. In urging the people to follow the lead of Comrade Stalin, the Communist International and the C.P.I. in the peoples' war against the German and Japanese dacoits, the bulletin asserts that British Imperialism has become weak, but not yet dead and that they must deal it a final blow. In another article, it says that the British bureaucracy is afraid of the masses and so it does not want to start factories in the colonies lest they should have to slacken their grip on their imperialist monopoly of exploitation. Eulogising the labourers who recently organised spontaneous strikes in different factories in and near Calcutta, it observes that these strikes are not intended to hamper the war efforts or production of materials but for the realisation of their petty demands; the labourers do not run away for fear of air-raids. The mill owners and bureaucracy are compelling them to resort to strike, and the bureaucracy is not



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**CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL ASSCN.**

**OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1942-43  
ELECTED**

Meeting held on Monday the 8th July, the following office bearers of the Calcutta Municipal Association have been elected for the year 1942-43 :-

1. Leader—Mr. N. C. Chatterjee, 2. Dy. Leader—Mr. Debendra Nath Mukherji, 3. Secretaries—Mr. Mringendra K. Mazumder, Mr. Bepin B. Sadkhan, 4. Whips—Mr. Sudhangshu K. Mitter, Kaviraj Satya Brata Sen, Major P. Burdhan.

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REFERENCE TO PREVIOUS CORRESPONDENCE.

REFERENCE TO SUBSEQUENT CORRESPONDENCE.



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102, 111, 115, 130, 131, 133, 137, 149,

Total - 19 Pages.